

Information Sheet

R Daughters of Rebekah. Damaris Lodge No. 20 (Rolla, Mo.).
969 Records, 1888-2003.
Thirty-two volumes and seven folders.

THIS COLLECTION IS IN OFF-SITE STORAGE. TWO DAYS' NOTICE IS REQUIRED FOR RESEARCH USE.

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

These are the records of Damaris Lodge No. 20 at Rolla in Phelps County, Missouri. They consist of minutes of meetings, membership records, financial records, and miscellaneous papers beginning with the institution of the lodge in 1888 and continuing through 2003.

The Rebekah Lodge was founded as an auxiliary to the Odd Fellows. The records open with the by-laws and the lodge's charter from the I.O.O.F. Grand Lodge of Missouri, 20 August 1888. There were twenty-six charter members, nearly all residents of Rolla, who proceeded to select local Odd Fellow William Fort as the first presiding officer (i.e. "Noble Grand"). The organizations maintained a close fraternal and social relationship over the years. Local Odd Fellows were frequent visitors to Damaris Lodge for installations of officers and lodge entertainments. Damaris Lodge also had close ties to the Rebekah and Odd Fellow lodges at St. James, Cuba, and Salem, Missouri. Ultimately, the Rebekah "auxiliary" outlasted the Odd Fellow lodge at Rolla.

The records of Damaris Lodge are mostly complete, and consist of minute books, records of membership, and financial records. Volumes 1-13 contain the minutes of meetings, beginning with the by-laws and minutes of the organizational meeting of 20 September 1888. Excepting a brief hiatus (there are no minutes from 18 July 1945 to February 1947), the minutes are complete through 7 February 1985. Matters taken up at meetings included the admission and initiation of new members, work on the various degrees of the Daughters of Rebekah, and talks "for the good of the order." Lodge members contributed toward the relief of impoverished members, widowed families, and the Odd Fellows home for orphans. Fraternal and social matters were the customary agenda, although the lodge appointed a delegate to Phelps County Development Federation on 16 March 1920.

Membership records in Volumes 14-20 are complete from 1888 through the 1960s. Each member had an individual account in the membership book showing dates of admission and initiation, completion of advanced degrees, and payment of dues and fees associated with the advanced degrees. In this series are also included an attendance roll of officers and visitors register.

Financial records in Volumes 21-32 exist only from 1916 but continue into 2003. They consist of the treasurer's records books, cash books, ledgers, and reports of the auditing committee.

Miscellaneous papers and pamphlets in Folders 1-7 include annual reports to the Rebekah Assembly of Missouri, membership application cards, transfer request, and dismissal certificates, miscellaneous papers, and booklets on Rebekah ceremonies. Folder 1 contains the annual reports beginning in 1922. The reports include summaries of membership, receipts and disbursements,

and payments of per capita taxes to the state assembly. The reports are useful for estimating the health and fortune of the Damaris Lodge. In 1922, the lodge counted 54 members and had \$110 in the bank. Membership fell to a low of 36 in 1934, with only \$88.41 in assets. By 1946, the lodge reached its greatest membership--121 members, with a balance of \$348.75 in the treasury. By 1986, the number dropped to only 54 members (the same as in 1922), but there was a balance on hand of \$1197.44.

Included with the Damaris records are three Daughters of Rebekah badges in leatherette cases. The badges are in the Information Folder.

*r1079**9 November 2004**Lloyd Wieland**Gift*

Shelf List

These are the records of Damaris Lodge No. 20 at Rolla in Phelps County, Missouri. They consist of minutes of meetings, membership records, financial records, and miscellaneous papers beginning with the institution of the lodge in 1888 and continuing through 2003.

Volumes 1-13: Minutes of meetings, 1888-1985

Volume 01: Minute Book, 20 Sep 1888—4 Jan 1900
Volume 02: Minute Book, 4 Jan 1900—6 Jan 1920
Volume 03: Minute Book, 17 Feb 1920—6 Jul 1932
Volume 04: Minute Book, 20 Jul 1932—17 Nov 1938
Volume 05: Minute Book, 5 Jan 1939—18 Jul 1945
Volume 06: Minute Book, 5 Feb 1947—24 Oct 1951
Volume 07: Minute Book, 2 Jan 1952—20 Jun 1956
Volume 08: Minute Book, 5 Sep 1956—3 May 1961
Volume 09: Minute Book, 17 May 1961—4 May 1966
Volume 10: Minute Book, 18 May 1966—16 Dec 1970
Volume 11: Minute Book, 19 Jan 1971—16 Apr 1975
Volume 12: Minute Book, 7 May 1971—3 Jan 1980
Volume 13: Minute Book, 17 Jan 1980—7 Feb 1985

Volumes 14-20: Records of members, officers, and visitors, 1888-1982

Volume 14: Membership account ledger, 1888-1923
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Volume 15: Membership account book, 1922-1938
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Volume 16: Members Register, 1930-1940
Volume 17: Members Register, 1940s
Volume 18: Members Register, 1940s-1960s
Volume 19: Officers Roll Book, 1966-1982
Volume 20: Visitor's register, 1950s-1960s

Volumes 21-32: Financial records, 1916-2003

Volume 21: Treasurer's record book, 1934-1941
Volume 22: Treasurer's record book, 1941-1947
Volume 23: Daybook, 1916-1946

Volume 24: Treasurer's Cash Book, 1 Jan 1947—19 Dec 1951
Volume 25: Treasurer's Cash Book, 16 Jan 1952—30 Dec 1954
Volume 26: Treasurer's Cash Book, 5 Jan 1955—4 Jan 1960
Volume 27: Secretary's Cash Book, 12 Feb 1921—29 Dec 1943
Volume 28: Cash book, 4 Nov 1953—2 Jan 1963
Volume 29: Ledger, 19 Jan 1966—20 Dec 1979
Volume 30: Ledger, 3 Jan 1980—31 Dec 1994
Volume 31: Ledger, 12 Jan 1995--9 Jan 2003
Volume 32: Audit Committee Reports, 1921-1948

Folders 1-7: Miscellaneous papers, 1896-1986

Folder 01: Annual Reports 1922-1986
Folder 02: Membership application cards, 1920s-1960s
Folder 03: Petitions for Membership, Transfer Certificates, Dismissal Certificates, and Visitor's Cards, 1950s-1970s
Folder 04: F.L.T. Club record book, 1965-1969
Folder 05: Tax reports, 1980-1985
Folder 06: Miscellaneous papers, 1896-
Folder 07: Manuals and pamphlets, 1910-1955
 Rebekah Funeral Ceremony (1912)
 Floor Work for Rebekah Lodges (1910)
 Floor Work for Rebekah Lodges (1923)
 Floor Work for Rebekah Lodges (n.d.)
 Laws and Ceremonies for Ladies Auxiliaries (1954)
 Suggested Manual for Secretaries of Subordinate Bodies (1955)
 Honors of the Degree Directive and Instructions to Rebekah Lodges (1955)
 Neva E. Beck, *Music for Rebekah Lodges* (1940)

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