
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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MS 1208
Tucson Business and Professional Women's Club
Records, 1917-1991

DESCRIPTION

Collection contains documentation on the activities of the Tucson Business and Professional Women's Club. It consists of correspondence, meeting minutes, Finances, Programs and Newspaper articles relating to the club's work within the Tucson community. The collection also includes information about the members themselves, a history of the local organization, scrapbooks and loose photographs.

17 boxes, 16.5 linear ft.

ACQUISITION

Jan LoVecchio donated this collection on August 31st, 2000, on behalf of the Arizona Business and Professional Woman's Foundation.

RELATED NOTE

See MS 1359 Tucson Business and Professional Women's Club Records 1921-1997 (bulk 1970s-1980s)

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

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Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society - Tucson, Archives Department.

PROCESSING

Brandi Barleycorn, AHS volunteer, processed this collection under the supervision of Riva Dean. It was completed in March 2002.

ARRANGEMENT

The collection is arranged in twelve Series: 1/Club history, 1917-1970; 2/Correspondence, 1941-1977; 3/ Meeting Minutes, 1947-1968; 4/Club's Finance, 1946-1991; 5/Member Information,

1932-1995; 6/Club's Programs and Community projects, 1940-1985; 7/Annual Reports, 1945-1977; 8/National Business and Professional Women's Proclamations, 1931-1976; 9/Club's Newsletters, 1936-1977; 10/ Newspaper Articles, 1930-1977; 11/Scrapbooks, 1917-1987; 12/Loose Photographs, 1950-1965

HISTORICAL NOTE

The Tucson Business and Professional Women's Club was originally established as the Tucson Business Women's Club in March of 1917. A national movement to federate various local women's groups began in 1918. The first Arizona State Convention of Business and Professional Women's Club met in Phoenix on February 12, 1921. There the groups decided to become a state organization. Their objective was to promote the interests of business and professional women; to gather and distribute information relative to vocational opportunities; to promote educational opportunities for women; to stimulate local organization and cooperation with businesses; and to promote the interests of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs. Women from around the state attended local club meetings, and state and national conferences. They raised money for scholarships in their local communities as well as for scholarships provided by the national BPW/USA Foundation.

One of the first community projects the Tucson Business Women's Club undertook was to help raise money to organize a local YMCA. They pledged \$1000 to the campaign fund, and worked in connection with them for several years. It was during this time that they changed their name to include the term "Professional." In later years, active civic participation became the main focal point of the club. During the Second World War they contributed to the war effort by donating food, recreational supplies for Davis Monthan Air base, and clothes for the victims of the war in Europe. In the late 1960's through the late 1970's, members of the TBPW's Club took part in the National organization's annual competitions for the best community project. The collection is full of committee lists for numerous community programs and projects. The club participated in raising funds through dinner parties, fashion shows and bake sales for run-away children, scholarship programs, improvement of civic structures and community celebrations.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Tucson Business and Professional Women's club collection includes correspondence between club members relating to their activities within the organization. In addition, it includes the minutes, finances of the club, and information on individual members. Newspaper articles, scrapbooks and descriptions of community projects undertaken by the women also document their activities.

The activities of the Tucson BPW club include hosting dinner parties, fashion shows, fundraising, scholarship donation, and contributing to community improvement projects. Of note is the club's participation in Tucson's Bicentennial Celebration of 1975-1976. These types of community efforts are expressed in length in scrapbooks. The entire collection shows the development of how businesswomen, in the Tucson area, gathered together to produce an effort for the benefit of their community.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box 1

Series 1: Club's History, 1917-1970

f. 1-2: Typewritten outline and brief review of club's history, 1917-1970

Series 2: Correspondence, 1941-1977

f. 3-10: Correspondence including press releases, 1941-1968

Box 2

f. 11-12: Correspondence, 1975-1977

Series 3: Meeting Minutes, 1947-1968

f. 13-17: Minutes from executive and regular meetings, 1947-1968

Series 4: Club's Finance, 1946-1991

f. 18-27: Treasurer's reports, budget and bank balances, 1946-1982

Box 3

f. 28-30: Budget and treasurer's reports, 1987-1991

Series 5: Member Information, 1932-1995

f. 31-40: Applications, rosters, awards and notebooks, 1932-1976

Box 4

f. 41-43: Notebooks and member rosters, 1977-1995

Series 6: Club's Programs and Community Projects, 1940-1985

f. 44-56: Program entries and awards, 1940-1980

Box 5

f. 57: Awards for projects, 1981-1985

Series 7: Annual Reports, 1945-1977

f. 58-66: President's reports, Activities reports and club goals, 1945-1977

Series 8: National Business and Professional Women's Proclamations, 1931-1976

f. 67: Proclamations, 1931-1976

Series 9: Club's Newsletters, 1936-1977

f. 68-75: "Rodeo", "Sizzling", "BPW Informer", "Bulletin", "Road Runner Review", and "Arizona Woman"

Series 10: Newspaper Articles, 1930-1977

f. 76: Press clippings, 1930-1931

Box 6

f. 77-89: Articles on club's activities, 1947-1977

Series 11: Scrapbooks, 1917-1987

f. 90: Loose contents of Allie Dickerman's scrapbook, 1917-1929

f. 91: Loose contents of TBPW's club scrapbook, 1975-1976

Series 12: Loose Photographs, 1950-1965

f. 92-94: B&W and color photographs of members, 1950-1965

Box 7

Treasurer's account book, 1938-1948

Box 8

Scrapbook, 1946-1953

Box 9

Scrapbook, 1966-1969

Box 10

Scrapbook of press clippings, 1969-1970

Box 11

Scrapbook of press clippings, 1970-1971

Box 12

Scrapbooks on Best Community Work and Project: Tucson's Bicentennial Program, 1975

Box 13

Scrapbook on Best Community Work: Christmas party for Papago Indian Children, 1976

Box 14

Scrapbook on Best Community Project: Christmas party, 1976

Box 15

Scrapbook on Best Community Work: Fall Luncheon Fashion and Card party, 1977

Box 16

Scrapbook of press clippings, 1977

Box 17

Scrapbook, 1979-1987