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**MS 1419
Flower Cactus Lodge Records
1927 - 1981****DESCRIPTION**

The Flower Cactus Lodge Collection consists of organizational records in the form of membership listings, meeting minutes, correspondence, and photographs of lodge members and activities. Programs for two state conventions and one tri-state convention are also present. Photographs depict lodge members and formal activities conducted by the organization with many names of members inscribed on the backs. One folder contains a history of the organization and a listing of the 10 charter members who founded the organization in 1884. In addition to the Flower Cactus Lodge records there are also present membership listings and meeting notes for an affiliated group called the Past Presidents Association.

3 Boxes, 2 linear ft.

HISTORICAL NOTE

In 1880 the railroad reached Tucson and workers with the railroad came new people to settle in Tucson and neighboring areas. In 1881 the Cactus Lodge No. 94 of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen & Enginemen was organized for locomotive firemen. On April 15, 1884 Mrs. George M. Sargent organized a group of 10 women to form Flower Cactus Lodge #56, the first Ladies' Society to the B. of L. F. & E. The organization attempted to provide better entertainment for husbands and wives of Tucson railroad employees providing sponsored entertainment each month and charged 25 cents for admission. The lodge provided assistance for railroad workers in need and general community improvement activities. The society was disbanded for a number of years due to relocation of some workers but was reestablished in 1899.

ACQUISITION

Donated by Peggy Kersch in 1986.

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

The collection was processed by Dave Tackenberg in September 2010.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1

Folder 1	Flower Cactus Tucson Lodge History	
f.2	“Ladies Society to the B. of L.F. & E.” <i>Tucson Magazine</i>	April 1934
f.3	1884 Lodge Constitution	1963
f.4	Ritual of the Ladies Society	1969
f.5	Lodge Correspondence	1928 – 1977
f.6	Arizona State Union Meetings – Programs	1949/1954
f.7	9 th Tri-State Union Meeting Program	1935
f.8	Lodge Prayer and Song Booklets	
f.9	Lodge Officials & Membership Listings	1962 – 1964
f.10	Lodge Membership Listings	N.D.
f.11	Lodge Meeting Minutes	1935 – 1948
f.12	Lodge Meeting Minutes	1937 – 1939
f.13	Lodge Meeting Minutes	1942 – 1945
f.14	Lodge Meeting Minutes	1949 – 1982

Box 2

f.15	Lodge Insurance Register	1969 – 1971
f.16	Past Presidents Association Charter Members	1927
f.17	Past Presidents Association Ritual Booklet	1927
f.18	Past Presidents Association Membership	1946 – 1948
f.19	Past Presidents Association Membership	1954 – 1979
f.20	Past Presidents Association Membership	1958 – 1977
f.21	Past Presidents Association Meeting Minutes	1928 – 1935
f.22	Past Presidents Association Meeting Minutes	1966 – 1981
f.23	Newspaper Clippings	1952/1969/N.D.
f.24-25	Photographs	
	Lodge Group and Activity Events	
	Many Individuals Identified	
	Award Presentation	
	Dinners and Cake Cuttings	

Box 3

Scrapbook Associated with Past Presidents Association Members and Activities