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**ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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**MS 1210**  
**Cholla Business and Professional Women's Club**  
**Records, 1947 - 1996**

**DESCRIPTION**

Collection contains documentation on the activities of the Cholla 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 Southern Arizona community. The collection also includes information about members, the history and bylaws of the organization, scrapbooks, loose photographs and slides.

6 Boxes, 4 linear ft.

**ACQUISITION**

Donated by Jan LoVecchio in 2000.

**ACCESS**

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

**COPYRIGHT**

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 Brandi Barleycorn, volunteer, under the supervision of Riva Dean in March 2002.

**ARRANGEMENT**

The collection is arranged in ten series: 1/Club History, 1947-1973; 2/Correspondence, 1949-1994; 3/Meeting Minutes, 1947-1996; 4/Financial Records, 1964-1996; 5/Member Information, 1949-1996; 6/Community projects, 1974-1996; 7/Annual Reports, 1963-1971; 8/Club Newsletter, 1955-1975; 9/Scrapbooks, 1958-1983; 10/Loose Photographs and Slides, 1964-1981.

## **HISTORICAL NOTE**

The Cholla Business and Professional Women's Club was organized as a response to the changing needs of Arizona Business and Professional Women's Club members. The Arizona club members felt that, due to the growing number of young women entering into the organization, there was need for expansion. The Cholla BPW Club was chartered on March 20, 1947. It had nineteen founding members. As with other clubs that owed their roots to the National Business and Professional Women's Club, the Cholla Club was organized with the understanding that its members would continue to uphold the founding club's principles of dedication to civic participation.

The Cholla BPW Club helped to sponsor several different local Tucson businesses and charitable foundations. For example, they donated costs for opening of local skating rink on East Speedway. They also contributed money for several years to a local clinic, called the Physic-Therapy Room. Members have volunteered their time and energies to organizations such as the Friendship Club of Tucson, a counseling center for mental patients who had been dismissed from the State Mental Hospital in Phoenix. They also held a membership in the Mental Health Society and helped coordinate picnics for the mentally challenged. The Girl's Living Center and The Children's Colony are examples of the children's charities that receive a large portion of the club's fundraising efforts. However, as stated in their typed history, the club's main interest was in improving their status as working women. This took the form of continuing to develop knowledge of their own personal fields, and helping others to look at them as dedicated employees by being physically presentable. Also, the Cholla BPW Club was active in helping to elevate the status of women in other countries through education and sponsorship.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The Cholla 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. Press clippings, scrapbooks and descriptions of public projects undertaken by the women also document their activities.

The activities of the Cholla BPW Club often centered on hosting dinner parties where members of the professional community were invited to come and speak. They also held joint meetings with the other local Business and professional Women's Clubs to discuss common fundraising goals or contribution to community improvement projects. Of note is the club's participation in the Sentinel Peak Park Restoration Project on top of "A" Mountain. They helped to raise funds for the reconstruction of a ramada and picnic benches that were torn down by vandalism. This project is expressed in great length in the scrapbooks and loose photographs that chronicle the project's building development. Also, the club was one of the many social groups in Tucson that helped organize the town's Bicentennial Celebration, preparations for which took place between 1975-1976. The collection shows how young women, within the Tucson community, came together to prove themselves as both capable businesswomen and administrators of civic works.

## BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

### Box 1

#### Series 1: Club History, Correspondence, Meeting Reports and Finance, 1947 – 1996

|          |  |             |
|----------|--|-------------|
| Folder 1 | Typewritten Outline and Brief Review of Club's History | 1947 – 1973 |
| f.2      | Copy of Club Charter                                   | 1947        |
| f.3      | Bylaws of Club Charter                                 |             |
| f.4      | Parliamentary Procedures for Organization              |             |
| f.5      | Club Emblem and Information                            |             |
| f.6      | Correspondence and Memos                               | 1949 – 1994 |
| f.7-17   | Meeting Minutes  | 1947 – 1978 |

### Box 2

|         |   |             |
|---------|---|-------------|
| f.18-21 | Meeting Minutes   | 1982 – 1996 |
| f.22-25 | Club Budget Proposals and Treasurer's Reports           | 1964 – 1996 |
| f.26    | Member Information, Attendance Sheets, Rosters & Awards | 1949 1996   |
| f.27-28 | Sentinel Peak Park Restoration Project                  | 1974 – 1996 |
| f.29    | Annual Reports  | 1963 – 1971 |
| f.30    | Club Newsletter – "Cholla Chatter"                      | 1955 – 1968 |

### Box 3

|         |                                    |             |
|---------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| f.37-39 | Club Newsletter – "Cholla Chatter" | 1969 – 1975 |
|---------|------------------------------------|-------------|

#### Series 2: Club Scrapbooks and Photographs, 1948 – 1983

|      |   |             |
|------|---|-------------|
| f.40 | Contents of Cholla Scrapbooks                   | 1964 – 1965 |
| f.41 | Loose Photographs of Members                    | 1964 – 1972 |
| f.42 | Loose Photographs of Sentinel Peak Park Project | 1978        |
| f.43 | Color Slide Negatives of Members and Activities | 1970 – 1981 |

### Box 4

|                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| Club Scrapbook | 1948 – 1949 |
|----------------|-------------|

### Box 5

|                |      |
|----------------|------|
| Club Scrapbook | 1950 |
|----------------|------|

### Box 6

|                 |                            |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Club Scrapbooks | 1955 – 1956<br>1956 – 1957 |
|-----------------|----------------------------|

### Box 7

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Club Scrapbook (includes images of women wearing squaw dresses) | 1962 – 1963 |
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**Box 8**

Club Scrapbook

1974 - 1976

**Box 9**

Club Scrapbook (Loose Pages)

1976 – 1978

**Box 10**

Club Scrapbook

1982 - 1983