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.

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

ARRANGEMENT

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.29 Annual Reports 1963 – 1971

Box 3


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

Box 4

Club Scrapbook 1948 – 1949

Box 5

Club Scrapbook 1950

Box 6

Club Scrapbooks 1955 – 1956

Box 7

Club Scrapbook (includes images of women wearing squaw dresses) 1962 – 1963
Box 8
Club Scrapbook 1974 - 1976

Box 9
Club Scrapbook (Loose Pages) 1976 – 1978

Box 10
Club Scrapbook 1982 - 1983