Woman's Club of Claymont (Del.) records
1920-2002

Abstract: The Woman's Club of Claymont (Del.), records, spanning the dates 1920-2002, and detail the social and civic life of this women's club located in Claymont, Delaware.
Descriptive Summary

Identification: MSS 532
Creator: Woman's Club of Claymont (Del.)
Title: Woman's Club of Claymont (Del.) records
Inclusive Dates: 1920-2002
Extent: 4 linear feet, 1 oversize box, and 1 oversize folder (5 boxes)
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Citation: MSS 532, Woman's Club of Claymont (Del.) records, Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware.

Shelving Summary: Boxes 1-4: Shelved in SPEC MSS record center cartons; Box 5: Shelved in SPEC MSS oversize boxes (24 inches); Series III., F5: Shelved in SPEC MSS oversize mapcases

Location: Special Collections Department, University of Delaware Library Newark, Delaware 19717-5267 Phone: 302-831-2229 Fax: 302-831-6003 URL: http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/


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Historical Note

The Woman's Club of Claymont was founded in 1920 to promote social, cultural, intellectual, and civic pursuits by a group of homemakers looking for a closer alternate to the Wilmington New Century Club. The club adopted as its motto "Nihil Sine Labore" - "Nothing Without Labor." Founding members chose white and green as the Club colors, and several years later the narcissus was chosen as the Club flower. The 1965 club historian wrote regarding the choice of club flower, saying, "We doubt that the members in selecting a flower to represent the club, gave any thought at all to the handsome youth of Greek mythology who fell in love with himself when he saw his reflection in the fountain, rather we believe that they selected the narcissus because of its stateliness, purity, and unassuming beauty." After its founding, the Woman's Club of Claymont became part of the Delaware State Federation of Women's Clubs and, in 1924, the group applied for membership in the General Federation of Women's Clubs. The club maintained close religious ties to the Christian church, opening every meeting with a prayer and donating money to religious institutions.

Community service was central to the work of the Club. In its early years, members worked on various community improvements projects, such as those focused toward cleaning the railroad station, and erecting street and traffic lights and directional signs on the Philadelphia Pike. They took an interest in local education by preparing hot soup for school lunches, providing milk for the undernourished, beautifying the school grounds, and hosting an annual party for students at Woods Haven (Woodshaven) School for Girls. During the 1930s, they awarded prizes to seniors at the Claymont High School graduation, offered a series of adult education courses, and helped form the first Claymont Parent Teacher Association. They also supported community groups like the fire department and several Girl Scout troops. During World War II club members aided in the distribution of ration books, made surgical dressings, and sold over $20,000 in government bonds. After the war, the Club began sending care packages to Europe and later to Korea. In Delaware, members volunteered at the Governor Bacon Health Center, the Wilmington Senior Center, and the State Hospital in Smyrna.

In the 1960s, the Woman's Club of Claymont started participating in the Cancer Crusade, promoted the use of seat belts, sponsored a defensive driving course, and became concerned about the conservation of natural resources, among other things. They initiated an annual Community Prayer Breakfast during Lent, which continued to be observed for many years as a vital part of Lent in the Claymont area. In the 1970s, they actively supported poor families and disaster victims through programs like the Northeast Parish Emergency Fund and Operation Reindeer. They established the Ethel M. King Scholarships, in honor of a former club president, which were awarded until 1978 to graduates of Claymont High School who planned to further their education. The group sponsored several local Junior Miss pageants and participated in the Meals-On-Wheels program, delivering food to shut-ins. The Woman's Club of Claymont has also had a long-standing relationship with the Claymont Community Center, completely furnishing and decorating the Center's Baby Sitting Room in the 1970s. Members also participated in a tutoring program, volunteered in the Thrift Shop, and helped with food collection at the Community Center.

The Woman's Club of Claymont was also interested in the arts. For several years they sponsored a student to attend the Delaware State Music Camp. They also donated many paintings to the Claymont School.
District. In the 1950s they began holding an annual Christmas Bazaar, which featured the arts and crafts work of the members and became the Club's single most important fund-raising project.

During the presidency of Mrs. Frances A. H. Dutton from 1928 to 1930, two important projects began. Due to the lack of a public library in Claymont, the group received permission to turn the Old Stone School into a library, which was opened to the public in 1929 with approximately 600 books. The Woman's Club ran the library until 1945 when the school board acted favorably on the Club's library recommendation and created the Claymont Public Library and five library commissioners. In 1959, the Club volunteered to staff the library once a week so that it could be open twice during the week. Members also volunteered with the cataloging and mending of books, as well as soliciting donations for the library. The Woman's Club of Claymont was also responsible for the beautification of the library grounds through its Garden Group.

Dutton's presidency also saw the formation of the Junior Section of the Woman's Club of Claymont in 1930 for young women ranging in age from 18 - 35. Beginning with only 31 members in 1930, the group reached a membership of 66 by 1960. The Junior Woman's Club was also very involved in community service. In the Club's first years, they provided milk for the Claymont Kindergarten and raised money for Claymont Community Nursing Services. During the war years, they volunteered for the Red Cross, and in the post-war period they provided free dental care for needy Claymont students, opened a Well-Baby Clinic, and held community dances for teenagers. During the 1960s and 1970s, the group continued working on dental care and supporting the Well-Baby Clinic, as well as volunteering at the Claymont Community Center.

Over the years, the Woman's Club of Claymont met in several community locations, including a stay from 1928 to 1945 at the Old Stone School House in Claymont, but "ever since its beginning the members of the Club have dreamed of a home of their own." A building fund, begun in 1924, grew steadily over the years, eventually allowing the purchase of two lots on Green Street in 1956. In 1963 Mrs. Frances Dutton bequeathed a substantial amount of money to the Club for the new clubhouse. In 1964 they hired Mr. Warren R. Lewis to design the clubhouse and Mr. George Moreton was hired as contractor. Members organized a groundbreaking ceremony on November 11, 1964, and the new building was completed by August 24, 1965. The clubhouse at 3410 Green Street was opened and dedicated on October 17, 1965, and became the home to the 129-member club. The building and grounds cost about $40,000, and was partially funded by a $16,00 15-year mortgage. Six and half years later the women celebrated the burning of the mortgage in 1972, an event one club historian described as "a truly remarkable accomplishment!" Club membership peaked at 187 in the late 1970s, but due to the "large number of women working outside the home and the death of many loyal members," membership began to decline and the Club had to sell the house. The Woman's Club still meets regularly at the Bible Baptist Church on Darley Road and continues to provide community service to the Claymont area.

Sources:
"Histories of the Woman's Club of Claymont," derived from the collection: Series V.1, F1.

"History of the Junior Woman's Club of Claymont," derived from the collection: Series VI.1, F15.
Scope and Content Note

The Woman's Club of Claymont, Delaware, records consists of four linear feet of material, spanning the dates 1920-2002. Comprised of the constitution and bylaws, correspondence, membership directories, reports, newsletters, minutes, financial records, clubhouse plans and blueprints, committee reports and projects, newspaper clippings, scrapbooks, histories, ephemera, awards, and material from other related groups, this archive details the social and civic life of this women's club.

The collection is divided into six series. Series I. consists of material that documents the organizational development and yearly operation of the Woman's Club of Claymont, including bylaws, correspondence, directories, reports, newsletters, and meeting minutes. Series II. contains items detailing the financial transactions of the group, while the materials in Series III. document the planning and building of the group's clubhouse. Series IV. contains information relating to the committees and projects of the Woman's Club of Claymont, as well as the group's entries in the General Federation of Women's Club's Community Improvement Project. Series V. records the history of the group, and also contains memorabilia such as scrapbooks, photographs, awards, and newspaper clippings. Finally, Series VI. provides material that concerns three additional groups that were closely related to the Club: the Junior Woman's Club of Claymont, the Delaware State Federation of Women's Clubs, and the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

Series I. Administration spans the years 1920-1992 and is divided into five subseries. The first subseries, Administrative (1924-1989), contains the constitution, bylaws, and correspondence of the Woman's Club of Claymont. While bylaws are present for most of the Club's history, correspondence is only available sporadically over the years and is an incomplete record of the Club's communications. The second subseries, Membership (1926-1989), contains the directories of the Club, as well as some lists of members. Bound Directories are available for the years 1959-1989, with several less formal directories available sporadically for the years 1926-1975. The last folder contains lists of members, many of which identify club officers and chairmen.

Reports (1926-1992), the third subseries, contains various reports written for the officers of the Woman's Club of Claymont. Each year the president of the Club wrote a report detailing the Club's activities for the year, which was sometimes called the Annual Report, and the collection includes a fairly thorough representation of these reports from 1943-1992. A few reports of the Secretary, Ways and Means, Budget Reserve Fund, Hospitality, and Membership chairs are also available, but these reports only sporadically cover a few years at a time. Also included are two reports written by Woman's Club of Claymont delegates to the Delaware State Federation of Women's Clubs Annual Convention in 1949 and 1952. The Woman's Club of Claymont began sending out monthly newsletters in 1960 as a way to inform members of important action taken at regular meetings, executive board meetings, and committee meetings, as well as any club or personal news. Subseries I.4., Newsletters (1960-1988), contains a full set of newsletters from 1960-1967 and 1980-1988, with additional sporadic holdings between 1967 and 1980. The final subseries, Meeting Minutes (1920-1992) contains the minutes from the General, Executive, and Board of Trustees Meetings. The minutes for the monthly General meetings and the monthly Executive Board meetings are available from the Club's founding in 1920 until 1970, and then from 1982-1992. Also included are minutes from the
Board of Trustee meetings from 1964-1988, as well as two notebooks used by the secretary to take notes during the meetings from 1967-1977 and 1980-1982.

Series II. Financial (1920-1992) documents the financial transactions and decisions of the Woman's Club of Claymont in two subseries. The first subseries, Financial Reports (1927-1992), contains all of the reports on financial aspects of the Club that were submitted to the Executive Board and General Meeting. The most incomplete headings in this subseries are the auditor's reports and the profits from the annual bazaar. There are proposed annual budgets for most years from 1957 onwards, and the yearly financial workings of the Club are documented in one way or another from 1930-1992. There are monthly treasurer reports available for most years from 1950-1992. The second subseries, Financial Records (1920-1979), documents the income and spending of the Woman's Club of Claymont. Financial ledgers are available for most years between 1920-1974; some books overlap in years. The seventies are the most well documented period of the group's finances, with bank statements, canceled checks, bank deposit slips, and receipts available for the years 1973-1979.

The third series, The Clubhouse, dates from 1955-1990 and, in three subseries, documents the planning and building, financing, and running of the clubhouse. The first subseries (1955-1980) includes information about the purchase and zoning of the lot on Green Street, as well as official property surveys of the lot. There are also files on the designer and contractor for the clubhouse, Warren R. Lewis and George A. Moreton, respectively. Building Committee reports are available from 1962-1966 and correspondence relating to the clubhouse is also present. The second subseries, Clubhouse Finances (1956-1986), includes an extensive number of receipts and canceled checks for clubhouse expenses. There are also reports from the Building Fund dating from 1958-1986, as well as the Building Fund ledger from 1956-1964. This subseries also includes information about the mortgage and about two important bequests to the Woman's Club of Claymont from Frances Dutton and Ethel B. King, that helped to finance the construction of the clubhouse. The third and final subseries deals with running the clubhouse, especially in regards to large purchases the group made over the years. It also contains a thorough collection of rental contracts from 1969-1987.

The many activities of the Woman's Club of Claymont are documented in the fourth series, Committees and Projects, 1930-2000. Committees were an important part of club life and the first subseries includes the minutes, records, and lists of the various groups including Arts and Crafts, American Homes, and International. However, the Woman's Club of Claymont had many more committees than are represented in this subseries. Items of special interest include an Arts and Crafts booklet from 1988, Christmas Bazaars photographs from the early 1990s, and entries for the 1998 scholarship contest. The second subseries, Reports (1927-1999), contains the reports of various committees, which are grouped in folders loosely by topic. Some of these reports were written for the officers of the Club and others were written for the GFWC, but they in no way represent a complete collection of all of the committee reports written over the Club's history. The third subseries, Projects (1940-2000), is an incomplete record of the community projects of the Woman's Club of Claymont. It does contain information about the Club's beautification project of the Claymont Library in 1964, and the Club's long relationship with the Claymont Library. Other projects mentioned include Operation Reindeer, the Claymont Christmas Drive, and Meals on Wheels, as well as members' volunteer activities at the Claymont Community Center, the Delaware State Hospital, and the Women's Correctional Institution. The fourth subseries, Community Improvement Projects (1956-2000), holds the Club's entries in the General
Federation of Women's Clubs annual contest. One entry dates from 1956-1958 when the contest was called the Community Achievement Project, with the remaining entries from 1970-2000 well documenting the Club's involvement in this project. Also included are guidelines for the contest from the GFWC from the late 1980s.

Series V., History and Memorabilia (1928-2002), documents the history of the Woman's Club of Claymont and is arranged in three subseries. There exists no published history of the organization, but various histories have been written throughout its existence, many of which are contained in this series. An article on "The Rise of Delaware's Women's Clubs" from 1969 mentions the Woman's Club of Claymont, as do several pages of newspaper clippings from the late 1920s, as well as numerous other clippings from the 1950s and 1960s. Three scrapbooks are available: one documenting the early years of the Club's history (F5), one documenting its community service in the late 1960s and early 1970s (F6), and one pertaining to the clubhouse (F7). The second subseries, Memorabilia (1945-1965), contains interesting items from the Club's history such as the clubhouse dedication program, books of poetry written by Delaware women, and the papers of Frances Dutton, Club president from 1928-1930. Awards and certificates that were presented to the Woman's Club of Claymont are available in the third subseries, Awards (1956-2002). However, there are no awards present for the first three and a half decades of the Club's existence.

The final series, Associated Groups (1930-1995), contains information about three groups closely related to the Woman's Club of Claymont. The first subseries documents the history and the organization of the Junior Woman's Club of Claymont from 1930-1980. The Junior section was founded in 1930, but the archives mostly detail its activities in the 1970s, through directories, correspondence records, attendance records, treasurer's reports, financial ledgers, budgets, newsletters, histories, and a handbook. The second and third subseries contain information sent to the Woman's Club of Claymont by the Delaware State Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs, respectively. The DSFWC subseries spans the years of 1950-1995, although the Woman's Club of Claymont has been a member since 1920. Similarly, though the Club became a member of the GFWC in 1924, this subseries only covers the years of 1965-1989.

Material will continue to be added to this collection as it becomes available from the Woman's Club of Claymont.
Selected Search Terms

Corporate Names

Woman's Club of Claymont (Del.)

Junior Woman's Club of Claymont (Del.)

Delaware State Federation of Women's Clubs.

General Federation of Women’s Clubs.

Topical Terms

Women--Societies and clubs--Delaware--History--20th century--Sources.

Women in community organization--Delaware--History--20th century--Sources.

Voluntarism--Delaware--History--20th century--Sources.

Geographic Names

Claymont (Del.)--History--20th century--Sources.

Form/Genre Terms

Minutes.

Correspondence.

Administrative records.

Reports.

Checks (bank checks)

Receipts (financial records)

Blueprints (reprographic copies)

Photographs.

Clippings (information artifacts)

Scrapbooks.

Certificates.

Ephemera.
Arrangement

I. Administrative, 1920-1992
   1. General, 1924-1989
   2. Membership, 1926-1989
   3. Reports, 1926-1992
   5. Meeting Minutes, 1920-1992

II. Financial, 1920-1992
   1. Financial Reports, 1927-1992

III. The Clubhouse, 1955-1990
   1. Planning and Building the Clubhouse, 1955-1980
   2. Clubhouse Finances, 1956-1986

IV. Committees and Projects, 1930-2000
   2. Reports, 1927-1999
   3. Projects, 1940-2000

V. History and Memorabilia, 1928-2002
   1. History, 1928-1976
   2. Memorabilia, 1945-1965
   3. Awards, 1956-2002

VI. Associated Groups, 1930-1995
   1. Junior Woman's Club of Claymont, 1930-1980
   2. Delaware State Federation of Women's Clubs, 1950-1995
Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I. Administrative, 1920-1992

The material in this series documents the organizational development and yearly operation of the Woman's Club of Claymont. It is arranged in five subseries and chronologically within each series.

Subseries I.1. General, 1924-1989

Constitution and Bylaws, 1924-1986 [Box 1 F1]
Includes full copies of the constitution and bylaws as well as lists of changes, arranged chronologically.

Correspondence, 1927-1989 [Box 1 F2]
Contains letters and memos written by and to the club.


This subseries details the membership of the Woman's Club of Claymont.

Directories, 1959-1974 [Box 1 F3]
These small bound books contain the yearly program, the club collect, the pledge of allegiance, a schedule of the meetings, as well as lists of officers, committees, chairmen, and members.

Directories, 1976-1989 [Box 1 F4]
These booklets contain lists of officers, committees, chairmen, and members, as well as the club collect.

Directories, 1926-1975 [Box 1 F5]
In addition to members, these lists also occasionally list the year's agenda, officers, committees and chairmen, and so on.

Membership Lists, 1926-1989 [Box 1 F6]

Subseries I.3. Reports, 1926-1992

Contains reports made to the executive or general meetings of the Woman's Club of Claymont.

Annual and President's Reports, 1943-1992 [Box 1 F7]
Each year the president of the Woman's Club of Claymont wrote a report detailing the club's activities for the year, which was sometimes called the Annual Report.

Board of Trustees Annual Reports, 1981-1985 [Box 1 F8]
Includes three reports written by the Board of Trustees discussing their activities for the year.
Secretary, 1948-1954 [Box 1 F9]
Contains three reports written by the corresponding secretary.

Ways and Means/Budget Reserve Fund, 1949-1965 [Box 1 F10]
Contains four reports from Ways and Means dating from 1949-1959 and one report from the Budget Reserve Fund from 1965.

Hospitality/Membership, 1926-1954 [Box 1 F11]
Includes two reports from the Hospitality Chair in 1926-1927, one report from the Membership Chair in 1952, and one report on Flowers and Cards from 1954.

Delegates Report from Annual Convention, 1949-1952 [Box 1 F12]
Includes reports written by Woman's Club of Claymont delegates to the Delaware State Federation of Women's Clubs Annual Convention in 1949 and 1952.

The Woman's Club of Claymont began sending out monthly newsletters in 1960 as a way to inform members of important action taken at regular meetings, executive board meetings, and committee meetings. They also included any club or personal news.

1960-1965 [Box 1 F13]
1966-1977 [Box 1 F14]
1980-1986 [Box 1 F15]
1986-1988 [Box 1 F16]
These newsletters were grouped together as the "Communications Scrapbook."

**Subseries I.5. Meeting Minutes, 1920-1992**
This subseries contains meeting minutes from general, executive, and board of trustee meetings, and is arranged chronologically.

General and Executive Meeting Minutes, 1920-1926 [Box 1 F17]
General Meeting Minutes, 1926-1992
These minutes detail the business of the club as discussed at monthly general meetings.

1926-1934 [Box 1 F18]
1934-1942 [Box 1 F19]

1942-1950 [Box 1 F20]

1950-1955 [Box 1 F21]

1955-1960 [Box 1 F22]

1960-1965 [Box 1 F23]

1965-1970 [Box 1 F24]

1982-1992 [Box 1 F25]

Executive Meeting Minutes, 1927-1992

These minutes detail the business of the executive board as discussed during the board's monthly meetings.

1927-1940 [Box 1 F26]

1941-1950 [Box 1 F27]

1950-1954 [Box 1 F28]

1954-1960 [Box 1 F29]

1960-1965 [Box 1 F30]

1965-1970 [Box 1 F31]

1982-1986 [Box 1 F32]

1987-1992 [Box 1 F33]

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, 1964-1986

These minutes detail the business of the Board of Trustees.

Meeting Notes, 1967-1977 [Box 1 F34]

This book contains the handwritten notes of the recording secretary taken during Board of Trustees meetings.

Meeting Notes, 1980-1982 [Box 1 F35]

This book contains the handwritten notes of the recording secretary taken during Board of Trustees meetings.
Series II. Financial, 1920-1992

The material in this series documents the financial transactions and decisions of the Woman's Club of Claymont. It is arranged in two subseries.

Subseries II.1. Financial Reports, 1927-1992

This subseries contains all financial reports covering numerous aspects of club activity that were submitted to the executive board and general meeting.

- Profits from Annual Bazaar, 1960-1991 [Box 2 F1]
- Documents related to the Woman's Club of Claymont annual fundraising bazaar.
- Proposed Annual Budgets, 1957-1992 [Box 2 F2]
- Annually, the treasure submitted a proposed budget for approval.
- Yearly Budgets, 1930-1952 [Box 2 F3]
- Auditor's Reports, 1927-1968 [Box 2 F4]
- At the end of each club year, the books would be audited and the auditor would submit her report.
- Monthly Treasurer's Reports, 1950-1992
  - 1950-1969 [Box 2 F7]
  - 1970-1977 [Box 2 F8]
  - 1976-1978 [Box 2 F9]
  - 1982-1985 [Box 2 F10]

This subseries documents the income and spending of the Woman's Club of Claymont through its financial ledgers, checkbooks, bank statements, canceled checks, deposit slips, and so on.

Financial Ledgers, 1920-1977

1920-1926 [Box 2 F12]
1928-1940 [Box 2 F13]
1940-1950 [Box 2 F14]
1950-1958 [Box 2 F15]
1962-1964 [Box 2 F16]
1972-1974 [Box 2 F17]
1972-1977 [Box 2 F18]

Robelen Piano Co. payment book, 1921-1922 [Box 2 F19]

Checkbooks, 1968-1978

1968-1976 [Box 2 F20]
1971-1973 [Box 2 F21]
1973-1974 [Box 2 F22]
1974-1975 [Box 2 F23]
1975-1976 [Box 2 F24]
1976-1978 [Box 2 F25]

Bank Statements, 1973-1979 [Box 2 F26]

Canceled Checks, 1973-1979

1973-1974 [Box 2 F27]
1974-1976 [Box 2 F28]
1977-1979 [Box 2 F29]
Bank Deposit Slips, 1973-1979 [Box 3 F30]

Clubs Expenses and Donations, 1973-1979 [Box 3 F31]

This file is divided into six chronological sections with each section containing any receipts, expense lists, or records of donations for the club year.

Series III. The Clubhouse, 1955-1990

The material in this series documents, in three subseries, the planning, building, and running of the clubhouse of the Woman's Club of Claymont.

Subseries III.1. Planning and Building the Clubhouse, 1955-1980

Purchase of Lot and Deed, 1955-1968 [Box 3 F1]

Includes plats, correspondence, and certificates relating to the purchase of the lot.

Property Survey of Green Street Lot, 1968, undated [Box 3 F2]

Includes plats of the lot that would become home to the clubhouse. Some surveys removed to Box 5, Spec MSS oversize boxes (24 inches).

Zoning, 1960-1964 [Box 3 F3]

Includes papers related to the rezoning of the Woman's Club of Claymont lot.

Warren R. Lewis, designer, 1964 [Box 3 F4]

Mr. Lewis was hired by the club to design the clubhouse.

Blueprints for Clubhouse, 1964 [Box 3 F5] (SPEC MSS oversize mapcases)

George A. Moreton, contractor, 1964-1966 [Box 3 F6]

Mr. Moreton was hired by the club to build the clubhouse. This file contains his bills for the first three years.

Building Committee Reports, 1962-1966 [Box 3 F7]

Reports from Building Committee on the progress on the clubhouse.

Correspondence Relating to Clubhouse, 1960-1980 [Box 3 F8]

Subseries III.2. Clubhouse Finances, 1956-1986

Building Fund Reports, 1958-1973 [Box 3 F9]

Contains reports from the committee appointed to raise and maintain the building fund.
Financial Ledger , 1956-1964 [Box 3 F10]

This financial ledger contains the transactions and accounts of the Building Fund.

Building Supplies , 1965-1983 [Box 3 F11]

Contains receipts and checks for building supplies.

Building Equipment , 1965-1981 [Box 3 F12]

Contains receipts and checks for building equipment.

Building Expenses , 1960-1985 [Box 3 F13]

This folder is divided by year and contains the receipts and checks for expenses related to the club house.

Mortgage , 1965-1972 [Box 3 F14]

In order to build the clubhouse, the Woman's Club of Claymont took out a mortgage from the Wilmington Trust Company.

Wilmington Trust Company , 1957-1974 [Box 3 F15]

Delaware Trust Company , 1966-1974 [Box 3 F16]

Frances Dutton Estate , 1963 [Box 3 F17]

Upon her death, club member Frances Dutton left the Woman's Club of Claymont over $14,800, specifically to the building fund.

Ethel B. King Trust , 1965-1977 [Box 3 F18]

Upon her death, club member Ethel B. King left the Woman's Club of Claymont $16,081.62, which was very helpful in the completion of the clubhouse.

Tax Information , 1959-1986 [Box 3 F19]

**Subseries III.3. Running the Clubhouse , 1964-1990**

Insurance Policy , 1964-1986 [Box 3 F20]

Details the insurance history of the clubhouse.

Renting the Clubhouse , 1970-1979 [Box 3 F21]

Includes contracts, conditions, and rules for renting the clubhouse.

Rental Contracts , 1976-1990 [Box 3 F22]
A record of the different groups and people that rented the clubhouse over the years.

Janitorial Contracts, 1969-1987 [Box 3 F23]

Includes purchase information and instructions for dishwasher.

Clubhouse Kitchen—Dumbwaiter, 1974 [Box 3 F25]
Includes purchase information and instructions for dumbwaiter.

Sound System, 1981 [Box 3 F26]
In 1981 the Woman's Club of Claymont purchased a sound system for the clubhouse.

Series IV. Committees and Projects, 1930-2000
This series documents the activities of the many committees of the Woman's Club of Claymont, as well as their projects in the community. It is divided into four subseries.

This subseries documents the work of the various committees of the Woman's Club of Claymont and is arranged chronologically.

Committee Lists, 1930-1932 [Box 3 F1]
Includes two lists of members who served on each committee.

Art Exhibit Donation Index Cards, 1957 [Box 3 F2]
These index cards and other notes were originally housed in a metal box, but the originals have been photocopied and discarded. Each member had a card that told what she was going to donate to the show. The cards are numbered (1-123) and then there are more cards, which are not numbered, that had been pulled out of alphabetical order, probably because a member died, moved away, or withdrew her membership. If the card had information on the front and back, the number is followed by an "f" for front or a "b" for back. If the card had additional information paper clipped to it, then those papers all have the same number as the card followed by the letters: "a, b, c", etc.

Arts and Crafts Exhibit Records, 1968-1969 [Box 3 F3]
Contains the records of an exhibit of the Arts and Crafts Committee.

Two notepads of minutes from the American Homes Committee meetings.
American Home Committee Minutes, 1983-1990 [Box 3 F5]
Notebook of the minutes of the American Homes Committee meetings.

International Committee Minutes, 1984-1990 [Box 3 F6]
Notebook of the minutes of the International Committee meetings.

Arts and Crafts Booklet, 1988 [Box 3 F7]
Contains pictures and crafts from the committee in 1988.

Christmas Bazaars, 1991-1993 [Box 3 F8]
Each year the club held a Christmas Bazaar as a fundraiser. This folder contains three announcements of the event, each featuring a photograph of a quilt.

Scholarship Contest, 1998 [Box 3 F9]
The Woman's Club of Claymont offered a $2000 scholarship to students in the Claymont area based on scholarship, character, personality, and community service. This folder contains the applications from 1998, including that from the winner for that year, Larry D. Lambert.

Subseries IV.2. Reports, 1927-1999
This subseries contains the reports of various committees, arranged alphabetically.

American Homes/Home Life/Home Economics, 1927-1985 [Box 3 F10]
The first report is from the Home Economics group in 1927, the second is from the American Homes committee in 1949, the next three reports are from the Home Life Committee in 1982 and 1983, and the final report is for the American Homes Committee in 1985.

Arts and Crafts, 1949-1994 [Box 3 F11]
The first four reports of the Arts group (which had different names through the years) are from 1949, 1982, 1984, and 1985. Then there are several detailed reports from 1994 for the General Federation of Women's Clubs that include photographs, advertisements, and publicity.

Community Service, 1982-1985 [Box 3 F12]
These reports relate to the Woman's Club of Claymont's activities to improve its community in various committees including "Partners for Progress" (1982), "Recreation for the Handicapped" (1983), "Public Affairs" (1983), and "Social Service" (1985).

Fundraising/Dollars for Delegates, 1982-1983 [Box 3 F13]
These reports talk about the fundraising activities of the club, as well as report how many "Dollars for Delegates" pins they sold.

GFWC Arts and Crafts Report, 1990-1992 [Box 3 F14]
Report includes photographs.

GFWC Continuing Education Reporting Form, 1997-1999 [Box 3 F15]
Reports on the club's work in continuing education to the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

GFWC Education Department Reporting Form, 1997-1999 [Box 3 F16]
Reports on the club's work in education to the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

GFWC Learning Disabilities Program Reporting Form, 1997-1998 [Box 3 F17]
Reports on the club's work with learning disabilities to the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

GFWC Literacy Program Reporting Form, 1997-1999 [Box 3 F18]
Reports on the club's work with promoting literacy to the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

International Relations/Affairs, 1949-1985 [Box 3 F19]
The first report is from the International Relations group in 1949 and then the following reports are from the International Affairs group from 1982-1985.

Literature, 1982-1985 [Box 3 F20]
Reports tell which books the literature group was reading, as well as their efforts for community service.

Subseries IV.3. Projects, 1940-2000
This subseries details the community projects of the Woman's Club of Claymont and is arranged alphabetically. At the end there is a subsection on the Community Improvement Projects competition in which the club participated.

Christmas Projects, 1988-1990 [Box 3 F21]
At Christmas, the Woman's Club of Claymont participated in Operation Reindeer and in the Claymont Christmas Drive.

Civic Beautification Project: The Claymont Public Library, 1964 [Box 3 F22]
Booklet on the beautification project carried out by the Woman's Club of Claymont at the public library.

Claymont Community Center, 1988-1989 [Box 3 F23]
The Woman's Club of Claymont was very involved in improving the Claymont Community Center.

Claymont Public Library, 1940-1990 [Box 3 F24]

The Woman's Club of Claymont not only started and ran the first public library in Claymont, but they remained very active in the public library once it was built.

Delaware Art Museum, 1978 [Box 3 F25]

The Woman's Club of Claymont loaned the print "Merchant of Venice" to the Delaware Art Museum for an exhibit.

Delaware State Hospital, 1988-1989 [Box 3 F26]

Members volunteered at Delaware State Hospital and also participated in the Vial of Life program.

GFWC Adopt-A-Library Entry Form, 1996-2000 [Box 3 F27]

Includes completed reports on the Woman's Club of Claymont's participation in the Adopt-A-Library program.

Meals on Wheels, 1989 [Box 3 F28]

Meals on Wheels is a community program that allowed members to volunteer to deliver meals to shut ins.

Women's Correctional Institution, 1989 [Box 3 F29]

Includes a letter from the Institution and notes from a meeting with the warden.


Community Achievement Project, 1956-1958 [Box 3 F30]

The forerunner to the "Community Improvement Project" sponsored by the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

Community Improvement Project, 1970-2000

The Community Improvement Project was a contest held by the General Federation of Women's Club in which each club would document a community project through some sort of scrapbook. The entries for the Woman's Club of Claymont are arranged chronologically by folder.

1970-1972 [Box 3 F31]

1978-1980 [Box 3 F32]

1980-1982 [Box 4 F33]
Series IV. Subseries IV.4.

1982-1984 [Box 4 F34]
1984-1986 [Box 4 F35]
1986-1988 [Box 4 F36]
1988-1990 [Box 4 F37]
1996-1998 [Box 4 F38]
1998-2000 [Box 4 F39]

Community Involvement Project Booklets, 1986-1990 [Box 4 F40]
Rules and guidelines from the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

Series V. History and Memorabilia, 1928-2002

This series documents the history of the Woman's Club of Claymont.

Subseries V.1. History, 1928-1976

Histories of the Woman's Club of Claymont, 1938-1976 [Box 4 F1]
Contains various histories written by club members.

Article—"The Rise of Delaware's Women's Clubs", 1969 [Box 4 F2]
This article by Catherine Cuningham appeared in Delaware Today.

Newspaper Clippings, 1928-1929 [Box 5 F3] (Spec MSS oversize boxes (24 inches))
Newspaper Clippings, 1950-1969, undated [Box 4 F4]
This folder of newspaper clippings related to the Woman's Club of Claymont is divided into three sections: 1950s clippings, 1960s clippings, and clippings without visible dates.

Scrapbook, 1930-1947 [Box 4 F5]
This scrapbook details the history of the club through newspaper clippings, photographs, and programs.

Scrapbook, 1968-1972 [Box 5 F6] (Spec MSS oversize boxes (24 inches))
This scrapbook details the community service of the group for the given years through reports, papers, newspaper clippings, and photographs.

Clubhouse Scrapbook, 1956-1970 [Box 4 F7]
This scrapbook details the building, dedication, and use of the clubhouse.

**Subseries V.2. Memorabilia, 1945-1965**

This subseries contains both memorabilia from the club, as well as from society at large.

**Club Programs, 1932-1970 [Box 4 F8]**

This folder contains the club collect, Delaware state song, and a poem about the club from 1932-1934; two copies of the program from a luncheon in 1938; the brochure from the 1940 pageant, "The History of Women's Clubs in Delaware;" two copies of the 1952-1954 club program; a 1966 program from the 46th birthday luncheon; and three copies of the 50th Anniversary Luncheon program from 1970.

**Clubhouse Dedication Program, 1965 [Box 4 F9]**

Contains 18 copies of the program from the dedication of the clubhouse on October 17, 1965.

**Clubhouse Memorabilia, 1964-1969 [Box 4 F10]**

Includes invitation to clubhouse dedication and photographs of the groundbreaking ceremony and the clubhouse itself.

**Frances A. Dutton Papers, 1945-1952 [Box 4 F11]**

Frances Dutton was a long-time member of the Woman's Club of Claymont, who served as president from 1928-1930. This folder contains some of her personal papers.

**Frances A. Dutton Photograph, undated [Box 4 F12]**

This photograph of Frances A. Dutton, club president from 1928-1930, has been removed from its original frame due to preservation concerns.

**Brochure—"Delaware's Official Insignia", undated [Box 4 F13]**

This brochure was saved by club members and contains information about Delaware's state flag, tree, flower, bird, state house, song, and seal.

**Newsletter—"Your Social Hygiene News", 1947 [Box 4 F14]**

This newsletter from the American Social Hygiene Association was saved by Woman's Club of Claymont members.

**Pamphlet—"A Quiz for Homemakers", undated [Box 4 F15]**

The National Association of Manufactures produced this pamphlet against excessive government spending. It was meant to appeal to housewives and was most likely produced in the 1950s.

**Delaware Writers, 1950-1953 [Box 4 F16]**
Three books of poetry written mostly by Delaware women published by First State Writers.

**Subseries V.3. Awards, 1956-2002**

This subseries holds awards and certificates presented to the Woman's Club of Claymont and is arranged chronologically.

**Awards from GFWC, 1956-2002 [Box 4 F17]**

Contains awards presented to the Woman's Club of Claymont from the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

**Awards from DSFWC, 1966-2002 [Box 4 F18]**

Contains various citations from the Delaware State Federation of Women's Clubs presented to the Woman's Club of Claymont.

**Geriatric Services of Delaware, 1988 [Box 4 F19]**

A certificate of appreciation presented to the Woman's Club of Claymont from the Board of Directors of Geriatric Serves of Delaware, Inc. for services to the aging. Also includes a letter and invitation.

**Very Special Arts Award, 1988-1998 [Box 4 F20]**

Awarded to the Woman's Club of Claymont by Very Special Arts, an educational affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

**Hugh O'Brian Youth Foundation Awards, 1989-1994 [Box 4 F21]**

Awarded to the Woman's Club of Claymont for demonstrating a commitment to the youth of this Nation through support of the Hugh O'Brian Youth Foundation's programs.

**Kind News Certificate of Caring, 1998-2001 [Box 4 F22]**

Awarded to the Woman's Club of Claymont for adopting teachers by the National Association for Humane and Environmental Education.

**Adopt-a-Library Project Certificates, undated [Box 4 F23]**

Four undated certificates awarded to the Woman's Club of Claymont by the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the American Library Association for its work with the Claymont Public Library.

**Additional Awards and Certificates, 1962-1994, undated [Box 4 F24]**

This folder contains certificates awarded to the Woman's Club of Claymont.

**Series VI. Associated Groups, 1930-1995**
This series is arranged into three subseries, each representing an organization that was closely related to the Woman's Club of Claymont.

**Subseries VI.1. Junior Woman's Club of Claymont, 1930-1980**

The Junior Woman's Club of Claymont was founded in 1930 under the leadership of Frances Dutton. Members must fall between the ages of 18 and 35. This subseries details the administration and activities of the junior section.

- **Administrative, 1964-1978, undated [Box 4 F1]**
  Includes memos and letters relating to club business.

- **Directory of Officers and Chairmen—Junior Section, 1930-1938 [Box 4 F2]**
  Includes the contact information for group members as well as committee lists.

- **Records of Correspondence Received, 1960-1979 [Box 4 F3]**

- **Record of Correspondence Sent, 1969-1979 [Box 4 F4]**

- **Address List, 1969-1979 [Box 4 F5]**
  Contains the contact information for club members.

- **Attendance Records, 1969-1980 [Box 4 F6]**
  Records member attendance at club meetings.

- **Treasurer's Reports, 1969-1972 [Box 4 F7]**

- **Monthly Financial Reports, 1976-1978 [Box 4 F8]**

- **Records of Dues Received, 1967-1978 [Box 4 F9]**

- **Financial Ledger—Special Account, 1966-1978 [Box 4 F10]**

- **Financial Ledger—Regular Account, 1966-1978 [Box 4 F11]**

- **Budgets, 1970-1972 [Box 4 F12]**
  Provides an overview of the club's financial situation.

- **Newsletters, 1973-1976 [Box 4 F13]**
  The Junior Woman's Club of Claymont sent out a monthly newsletter.

- **Relating to Newsletters, 1966-1977 [Box 4 F14]**
Records of the newsletter staff.

Junior Woman's Club of Claymont Histories, 1960-1961 [Box 4 F15]

Handbook, 1973-1974 [Box 4 F16]

This handbook includes the constitution and bylaws, the program for the year, as well as a directory of members for the Junior Section in 1973-1974.

Claymont Community Center, 1975-1976 [Box 4 F17]

Like the Woman's Club of Claymont, the Junior Section was also very involved in the Claymont Community Center.


The Woman's Club of Claymont was a member of the Delaware State Federation of Women's Clubs, which was founded in 1898.

Information from the DSFWC, 1975-1989 [Box 4 F18]

Contains letters, reports, bulletins, etc. sent to the Woman's Club of Claymont by the Delaware State Federation of Women's Clubs.

DSFWC Newsletters, 1966-1989 [Box 4 F19]

There are two copies of the Delaware State Federation of Women's Clubs Newsletter from January 1966 which is titled *The Federation Forecaster*. There are also several copies of the *Delaware Clubwomen News and Views* from the late 1980s.


Includes the Woman's Club of Claymont.

Annual Convention Programs, 1950-1995 [Box 4 F21]

Each year the Delaware State Federation of Women's Clubs holds annual conventions and this folder contains the program from 1950 and the programs from various events from the 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1995 Conventions.


In 1924 the Woman's Club of Claymont became a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, which was founded in 1889.

Information from the GFWC, 1965-1989 [Box 4 F22]
Contains letters, reports, bulletins, etc. sent to the Woman's Club of Claymont by the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

GFWC Newsletters, 1988 [Box 4 F23]

One copy of the *Newsletter: General Federation of Women's Clubs* from June 1988.


The General Federation of Women's Clubs sent forms to all of its members in order to ascertain which types of projects they were focusing on and how much effort each project was getting.