

'81 Club Collection (SC199)

Introduction

This collection includes meeting minutes, programs, scrapbooks and other materials relating to the '81 Club, a Kansas City women's club founded by Sarah Chandler Coates in 1881.

Descriptive Summary

Title: '81 Club Collection
Dates: 1886 – 2019
Size: 2.29 linear feet, 6 boxes
Collection Number: SC199

Donor Information

Gift, 2014, Mrs. Alan Reid (Joan) Marsh on behalf of the '81 Club. Some items were already included in the Missouri Valley Special Collections and subsequently added to this collection.

Citation Note

'81 Club Collection (SC199), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Administrative Information

Related Collections: Mrs. Loyd C. Owen, Jr. Papers (SC199-1), Mrs. Alan R. Marsh Papers (SC199-2), Mrs. Paul G. Koontz Papers (SC199-3), and Susan Kircher Papers (SC199-4). Additional information relating to the '81 Club may be found in the library catalog and in the Missouri Valley Special Collections Local History Index.

Historical Sketch

The '81 Club was founded in 1881 by Sarah Chandler Coates, wife of Kansas City civic leader Kersey Coates. An active suffragist, abolitionist, and believer in the power of education, Sarah Coates sought to establish a women's social club dedicated to the pursuit of learning for the benefit of its members and of the city.

The club's inaugural meeting was held in October of 1881 under the name "The History Class" and took place at the home of Mrs. Edward H. Allen, a niece of Harriet Beecher Stowe. The twelve women who gathered established a systemized course of study in which research topics were assigned for the entire year, and club members were responsible for preparing papers to share with the group.

The '81 Club's meetings consisted of the reading of minutes, a paper presentation and current event discussion. This structure remained relatively unchanged in the

following decades, and membership to the '81 Club was limited to twenty women. The club still operates today.

Scope and Content Note

This collection is arranged into six series according to type of material, and therein chronologically where possible.

Series 1: Meeting Minutes, 1922-2015 and n.d.

This series contains meeting minutes and is arranged chronologically by date.

Series 2: Financial Records, 1933-1955

The series contains one treasurer's book with accompanying receipts.

Series 3: Annual Programs, 1886-2019

This series is comprised of club programs, which contain the annual schedule, paper topics, lists of members and addresses, lists of officers, and other information. This series is arranged chronologically by date. Please note that years missing from the folders of loose programs may be found in the bound volumes in folders 19-20, with the exception of those noted in folders 31-32.

Series 4: Club History and Miscellaneous Materials, 1956-2014

This series contains items relating to the club's history, such as member lists, newspaper clippings, and miscellaneous materials used for anniversary celebrations. This series is arranged chronologically.

Series 5: Scrapbooks, 1913 and 2009

This series contains two scrapbooks created by club members, which include various club histories, newspaper clippings, member lists, programs, and photographs.

Series 6: Club Papers, 1933-2019 and n.d.

This series contains papers written and presented by club members. This series is arranged alphabetically by member name and therein chronologically. Please note that some papers may have been presented to the club significantly later than the date they were written (i.e. Kathy Nelson Taggart's 1933 and 1934 papers.)

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Meeting Minutes, 1922-2015 and n.d.

- f. 1 Minute book, 1922-1929
- f. 2 Minute book, 1929-1937
- f. 3 Minute book, 1937-1949

- f. 4 Minute book, 1949-1956
- f. 5 Minutes, 1956-1960
- f. 6 Minutes, 1961-1965
- f. 7 Minutes, 1966-1969
- f. 8 Minutes, 1970-1971
- f. 9 Minutes, 1972-1976
- f. 10 Minutes, 1977-1984
- f. 11 Minutes, 1984-1989
- f. 12 Minutes, 1990-1994
- f. 13 Minutes, 1994-1998
- f. 14 Minutes, 1998-2003
- f. 15 Minutes, 2004-2009
- f. 15.1 Minutes, 2009-2015
- f. 16 Minute book, n.d.

Series 2: Financial Records, 1933-1955

- f. 17 Treasurer's book and receipts, 1933-1955

Series 3: Annual Programs, 1886-2019 (with gaps)

- f. 18 Program notebook, 1886-1887
- f. 19 Programs, 1887-1897 (Vol.)
- f. 20 Programs, 1897-1907 (Vol.)
- f. 21 Programs, 1907-1916 (Vol.)
- f. 22 Programs, 1916-1927 (Vol.)
- f. 23 Programs, 1891-1893
- f. 24 Programs, 1894-1896
- f. 25 Programs, 1896-1898
- f. 26 Programs, 1898-1901
- f. 27 Programs, 1901-1904
- f. 28 Programs, 1906-1911
- f. 29 Programs, 1914-1918
- f. 30 Programs, 1918-1920
- f. 31 Programs, 1920-1940 (missing 1927-1928 and 1928-1929)
- f. 32 Programs, 1940-1955 (missing 1944-1945 and 1946-1947)
- f. 33 Programs, 1955-1965
- f. 34 Programs, 1965-1970
- f. 35 Programs, 1970-1975
- f. 36 Programs, 1975-1980
- f. 37 Programs, 1980-1985
- f. 38 Programs, 1985-1990
- f. 39 Programs, 1990-2000
- f. 40 Programs, 2000-2010
- f. 41 Programs, 2010-2019

Series 4: Club History and Miscellaneous Materials, 1956-2014

- f. 42 Members lists, 1956 and n.d.

- f. 43 Newspaper clippings, 1956; 1970 and n.d.
- f. 44 125th Anniversary Dinner materials, 2006
- f. 45 New member packet, 2014 – Includes list of 2006-2014 club papers, procedural guidelines, essay on Sarah Chandler Coates, A History of the '81 Club, constitution and by-laws, 125th Anniversary program, and 130th Anniversary DVD

Series 5: Scrapbooks, 1913 and 2009

- f. 46 '81 Club Scrapbook from Mrs. J. K. Cravens, 1913
- f. 47-52 '81 Club Scrapbook by Carol Owen, assembled 2009
- f. 53 Scrapbook duplicates

Series 6: Club Papers, 1933-2019 and n.d.

Carkener, Laura

- f. 54 Samarkand, 1964-1965
- f. 55 Unidentified Flying Objects, 1966-1967
- f. 56 The Erie Canal, 1967-1968
- f. 57 First Ladies, 1968-1969
- f. 58 Fifth Avenue, 1969-1970
- f. 59 King Arthur, Man and Myth, 1970-1971
- f. 60 Jim Thompson, Bangkok, 1971-1972
- f. 61 French Canada, 1972-1973
- f. 62 Chinese Snuff Bottles, 1973-1974
- f. 63 Alaska, 1974-1975
- f. 64 Espionage, Intrigue and Deception in the American Revolution, 1975-1976

Pickard, Evie (written by Nicholas Pickard)

- f. 65 Sickman in China, 1988

Taggart, Kathy

- f. 66 The Important Interlude in The Faerie Queen, 1933
- f. 67 William Blake and the "Book Beautiful," 1934
- f. 68 Fanny Kemble, 1969
- f. 69 Metropolitan Museum, 1970
- f. 70 Romanesque Pilgrimage, 1972
- f. 71 David McCord "One at a Time," 1979
- f. 72 Chardin, 1979
- f. 73 Italian Fabrics, 1984
- f. 74 Camille Pissarro, 1985
- f. 75 Sarah Orne Jewett, 1990
- f. 76 The Oosena Affair / The Master Forger, 1993
- f. 77 1776, n.d.
- f. 78 Edward Lear, n.d.
- f. 79 Mary Fuller Sickman, n.d.

- f. 80 Samuel Pepys, n.d.
 f. 81 Sir Godfrey Kneller / English Painters, n.d.

Turnbull, Sue

- f. 82 Living in England, Sue Turnbull, 1988

Wolferman, Kristie C.

- f. 83 Mary Atkins's Dream of an Art Museum, 2019
 f. 84 Orphanages in America, 2019

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