

**Roanoke Public Libraries
Virginia Room
Woman's Club of Roanoke Collection**

Collection Description:

Repository: Roanoke Public Libraries, Virginia Room

Accession Number: 2021.08.17

Title: Woman's Club of Roanoke Collection

Characteristics: 1 document storage case and 1 flat box

Donated by: Barbara M. Creasy

Arrangement: Documents are arranged chronologically

Creator: Woman's Club of Roanoke

Reproduction Restrictions: No known restrictions on publication. Virginia Room copy fees apply.

Processor: Angela Stiefbold, August 2024

Historical Note:

The Woman's Club of Roanoke was established in 1923; it was a successor organization to the Association of Commerce Civics Division, which had in turn succeeded the Women's Civic Betterment Club. A nonsectarian, nonpartisan, nonpolitical organization, its purpose was to promote citizenship, public welfare, philanthropy, and education, at the local, state, and national levels. The organization supported many early civic endeavors in Roanoke, including city planning, juvenile court, health department, the public library, a civic orchestra, city parks, hospital facilities, a parent-teacher organization, and assistance to "crippled children," in addition to donating time and funds to a wide variety of other civic and national defense causes.

During the early 1960s, the club had about 220 active members, who annually gave thousands of hours of volunteer service to local organizations and events. In addition to educational and social programs for members, the group provided a scholarship for nurses, maintained first aid stations at shopping centers, purchased a piano for Mountain View, organized social events for patients at the VA Hospital, and fundraised and donated money to cancer patients and to the Roanoke Rehabilitation Center, purchased flags for downtown Roanoke, and donated money to the J.L.C. Medley Boys Camp and the Roanoke Valley Cerebral Palsy Association. Lucille Woody Creasy, club president 1962-64, was a graduate of Salem High School and the Lewis-Gale Hospital School of Nursing.

Scope and Content:

The collection consists of club yearbooks spanning from the 1920s through the 1970s (not inclusive), which were given to the library over the years by various donors, and a club scrapbook for the years 1962-64, which had been in the possession of Lucille Woody Creasy Anderson (1913-2006), Mrs. Roy V. Creasy, who was president of the Woman's Club of Roanoke during those years.

The yearbooks include lists of officers, committee chairs, and members; the club constitution and by-laws; a history of the prior year's activities; and a program for the coming year's activities. Some include photographs of the club meeting place and club leaders.

The scrapbook documents the club's and Mrs. Creasy's activities and district, state, and national events attended, through ephemera, newspaper clippings, correspondence received, and a few photographs (no identification of individuals). Also included in the scrapbook are some of Mrs. Creasy's hand-written speaking notes, as well as many issues of the club's monthly newsletter. A digital copy of the scrapbook was made. Many non-newspaper items were loose and were removed from the scrapbook to box 1, folders 1 and 2.

Container List:

Box 1

- Folder 1: 1962-64 Scrapbook, Loose Items, 1962-63
- Folder 2: 1962-64 Scrapbook, Loose Items, 1963-64
- Folder 3: Yearbooks, 1920s – 1923-24; 1925-26; 1926-27; 1929-30
- Folder 4: Yearbooks, 1930s – 1931-32 through 1936-37; 1938-39
- Folder 5: Yearbooks, 1940s – 1946-47; 1947-48; 1948-49
- Folder 6: Yearbooks, 1950s – 1950-51; 1951-52; 1952-53; 1956-57; 1958-59
- Folder 7: Yearbooks, 1960s – 1960-61; 1961-62; 1962-63; 1964-65 through 1969-70; [1963-64 can be found within the 1962-64 Scrapbook]
- Folder 8: Yearbooks, 1970s – 1970-71 through 1975-76

Box 2

1962-64 Scrapbook, Woman's Club of Roanoke – Documents the activities of the club and its members, primarily through newspaper clippings and ephemera. A few photographs of club activities are also included. Some information is related to district, state, and national woman's club activities, as well as those of the Junior Woman's Club of Roanoke. Programs for the 1963 and 1964 Miss Roanoke County pageants, and the Floyd Ward Revue (1963) and Follies of '64 (1964) fundraisers are included. A digital copy of the scrapbook was made and should be primarily consulted by researchers. Many non-newspaper items were loose and were removed from the scrapbook to box 1 folders 1 and 2. Items that could not be removed without damage remain in the scrapbook.