

**Roanoke Public Libraries
Virginia Room
Roanoke Country Club Collection**

Collection Description:

Repository: Roanoke Public Libraries, Virginia Room

Accession Number: 1999.4.27

Title: Roanoke Country Club Collection

Physical Characteristics: 1 document storage case

Donated by: Ralph Pecca

Arrangement: Generally chronologically

Creator: Unknown

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

Processor: Angela Stiefbold, November 2024

Historical Note:

The Roanoke Country Club was founded in 1899 as a golf and tennis club. Its first clubhouse was a repurposed home near where it rented land from the Crystal Spring Land Company for a golf course; tennis courts were also built on adjacent lots purchased by the club. Club members also participated in other sports and games and held social events. In 1902 membership was 113 active and 49 associate members. In 1908 the club moved to its present location off Melrose Avenue, which was accessible by streetcar from downtown Roanoke. It included a clubhouse, 9-hole golf course, and tennis courts; the course was expanded to 18 holes in about 1920. A new clubhouse was constructed in 1924; the first swimming pool at the club was installed in 1937. In subsequent years, facilities were further improved, expanded, and enlarged. In 1964 the club acquired more land to expand the golf course to 27 holes in 1966. In 1967-68 the club house was further expanded and modernized and an indoor tennis facility was built.

Scope and Content:

The collection features the club newsletter, *Country Club News* from 1956-1970, though not all issues are present. It also includes materials gathered to prepare a club history on occasion of its 70th Anniversary in 1969, including a reproduction of "Golf in Roanoke" written in 1917 by Walter A. Carpenter, and typescript drafts of the history of tennis in Roanoke and of the Roanoke County Club written by George Hanger in 1969.

Container List:

Box 1

Folder 1: *Golf in Roanoke* (1917) – Copies of booklet published in 1917. Includes a history of Golf in Roanoke written by Walter A. Carpenter; winners of 1916 events at Roanoke Country Club; advertisements from local businesses; photographic illustrations of buildings and scenes at Roanoke Country Club; and lists of officers and members of Roanoke Country Club, both men and women

Folder 2: *Country Club News* (Dec. 1956, Jun. & Nov. 1958)

- Folder 3: *Country Club News* (Apr., May, June 1959)
- Folder 4: *Country Club News* (Dec. 1964, Feb.-Dec. 1965)
- Folder 5: *Country Club News* (Jan.-Dec. 1966)
- Folder 6: *Country Club News* (Jan.-Dec. 1967)
- Folder 7: *Country Club News* (Jan.-Feb., Apr.-Dec. 1968)
- Folder 8: *Country Club News* (Jan.-Jun., Aug.-Sept., Nov.-Dec. 1969, Jan.-Feb. 1970)
- Folder 9: History of Tennis in Roanoke (1969) – Written by George Hanger, a 23-page typescript
- Folder 10: History of Roanoke Country Club (1969) – Written by George Hanger, a 10-page typescript
- Folder 11: Roanoke Country Club, Inc. (1970) – Pamphlet. Includes: lists of officers, committee chairmen; club history; early photographs; house rules; photographs of officers, staff, and activities; committee reports from 1969; 1970 club calendar; list of former presidents; number of members by type; and certain fees
- Folder 12: Annual Reports (1967, 1968, 1969) – Financial reports, committee reports
- Folder 13: Miscellaneous Items –
- Pamphlet of upcoming events (nd)
 - Financial Balance Sheet, December 31, 1962
 - Correspondence from 1969 regarding preparation of a club history
- Folder 14: Photographs – Six 8”x10” black and white prints, reproductions of earlier photographs of the Roanoke Country Club and grounds
- Folder 15: Land Plats –
- Map of property owned by the Crystal Spring Land Co., including Sherwood Forest (1927)
 - Map of Grounds of Roanoke Country Club (nd)
- Folder 16: Newspaper Indexes, Clippings –
- Lists of newspaper articles about the Roanoke Country Club (1937-52, likely not exhaustive)
 - Apr. 23, 1924 article on opening of new location and clubhouse
 - Newspaper clippings regarding Roanoke country Club events (1968)
 - Jan. 25, 1969 article by Raymond Barns on Country Club history