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## Woman's Club of Smiths Grove, Kentucky (MSS 456)

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Manuscripts & Folklife Archives  
 Department of Library Special Collections  
 Western Kentucky University  
 Bowling Green, KY 42101-1092

*Descriptive Inventory*

**MSS 456 WOMAN'S Club of Smiths Grove, Kentucky**

13 boxes. 145 folders. 1,390 items. 1923-2014. Originals, photocopies, photographs.

SC2013.67.1

**ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY**

The Woman's Club of Smiths Grove originated with a group of women who met to do needlework. One of them suggested that a book be read aloud while they sewed, and accordingly in 1898 Mattie Ford Simmons and Jessamine "Jessie" Roberts organized the Needlework Guild at the home of Ella Kirtley. The first president was Ibbie Beard (later Mrs. William Allen).

In pursuit of both social and intellectual objectives, the club was reorganized in 1906 under President Mary Reed Cooke as the Woman's Club of Smiths Grove, Kentucky. The club joined the Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs in 1909.

One of the club's earliest goals was the creation of a library, with members applying dues and the proceeds of entertainments toward the purchase of books. The club opened its library to subscribers, with the ultimate objective of building a public library. In 1982, members worked with city and county officials, public and state librarians, and other clubs to establish the Smiths Grove-North Warren County Public Library. In 1976, the club established a permanent scholarship fund within the College Heights Foundation at Western Kentucky University (WKU) to benefit local high school students. Over its existence, the Woman's Club of Smiths Grove has engaged in many other civic, philanthropic, social, educational and patriotic activities.

**COLLECTION NOTE**

This collection consists of the records of the Woman's Club of Smiths Grove, Kentucky. The earliest record is a yearbook from 1910-1911 (Series V, Subseries 4, Box 1, Folder 5), but a regular run of yearbooks does not commence until 1923. The earliest club minutes in the collection date from 1937 but substantial gaps exist, particularly for the 1960s and 1970s.

The collection is divided into five series. **Series I, Administrative Papers**, consists of six subseries: founding documents; minutes; yearbooks; correspondence; membership; and annual activity reports. **Series II, Publications**, consists of one subseries, newsletters. **Series III, Projects and Activities**, consists of six subseries: WKU scholarships; "Christmas in the Country" home tours; community improvement projects; press books; event programs; and miscellaneous. **Series IV, Financial Records**, consists of one subseries, general financial

records. **Series V, Miscellaneous**, consists of five subseries: awards and citations; clippings; material relating to the Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs and General Federation of Women's Clubs; miscellaneous; and photographs.

### ***SHELF LIST***

**BOX 1** **1 item**

Folder 1      Inventory 1 item

### **SERIES I      ADMINISTRATIVE PAPERS**

#### **SUBSERIES 1      Founding documents**

**Box 1      Founding documents      1973-1980      3 items**

Folder 1      Constitution and bylaws      1973-1980      3 items

#### **SUBSERIES 2      Minutes**

**Box 1      Minutes      1937-1959      124 items**

Folder 1      Minutes      1937-1943      2 items

Folder 2      Minutes      1943-1952      2 items

Folder 3      Stray items removed from minutes in Folder 2      1943-1953      40 items

Folder 4      Minutes      1952-1953      1 item

Folder 5      Minutes      1954-1959      70 items

Folder 6      Stray items removed from minutes in Folder 5      n.d.      9 items

**Box 2      Minutes      1964      1 item**

Folder 1      Minutes      1964      1 item

**Box 3      Minutes      1982-2000      225 items**

Folder 1      Minutes      1982-1986      77 items

Folder 2	Minutes	1988-1996	83 items
Folder 3	Minutes	1996-2000	65 items

### **SUBSERIES 3 Yearbooks**

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Yearbooks</b>	<b>1923-2007</b>	<b>91 items</b>
Folder 1	Yearbooks	1923-1933	10 items
Folder 2	Yearbooks	1933-1944	11 items
Folder 3	Yearbooks	1944-1959	15 items
Folder 4	Yearbooks	1959-1976	16 items
Folder 5	Yearbooks	1976-1986	10 items
Folder 6	Yearbooks	1986-1996	10 items
Folder 7	Yearbooks	1996-2007	11 items
Folder 8	Stray items removed from yearbooks	1924-1998	8 items
<b>Box 2</b>	<b>Yearbooks</b>	<b>2008-2011</b>	<b>5 items</b>
Folder 1	Yearbooks	2008-2011	4 items
Folder 2	Stray items removed from yearbooks	2009	1 item

### **SUBSERIES 4 Correspondence**

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	<b>1952-2006</b>	<b>164 items</b>
Folder 1	Correspondence	1952-1959	25 items
Folder 2	Correspondence	1960-1969	3 items
Folder 3	Correspondence	1970-1979	11 items
Folder 4	Correspondence	1980-1987	30 items
Folder 5	Correspondence	1988-1989	24 items

Folder 6	Correspondence	1990-1993	32 items
Folder 7	Correspondence	1994-1999	16 items
Folder 8	Correspondence	2000-2006	6 items
Folder 9	Correspondence	n.d.	17 items

### **SUBSERIES 5 Membership**

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>1995-1996</b>	<b>5 items</b>
Folder 1	Membership forms	1995-1996	5 items

### **SUBSERIES 6 Annual Activity Reports**

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Annual Activity Reports</b>	<b>1977-1990</b>	<b>14 items</b>
Folder 1	Annual report	1977	1 item
Folder 2	Annual report	1978	1 item
Folder 3	Annual report	1979-1980	2 items
Folder 4	Annual report	1981	1 item
Folder 5	Annual report	1982	2 items
Folder 6	Annual report	1983	1 item
Folder 7	Annual report	1984	1 item
Folder 8	Annual report	1987	1 item
Folder 9	Annual report	1988	2 items
Folder 10	Annual report	1989	1 item
Folder 11	Annual report	1990	1 item

**SERIES II PUBLICATIONS****Subseries 1 Newsletters**

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Newsletters</b>	<b>1979-2007</b>	<b>21 items</b>
Folder 1	Newsletters	1979-1989	8 items
Folder 2	Newsletters	2003-2007	13 items

**SERIES III PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES****Subseries 1 College Heights Foundation Scholarship Fund**

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>College Heights Foundation Scholarship Fund</b>	<b>1976-2005</b>	<b>33 items</b>
Folder 1	College Heights Foundation (WKU) – Scholarship fund	1976-2005	33 items

**Subseries 2 "Christmas in the Country" Home Tour**

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>"Christmas in the Country" Home Tour</b>	<b>1981-1994</b>	<b>30 items</b>
Folder 1	"Christmas in the Country" Home Tour	1981	4 items
Folder 2	"Christmas in the Country" Home Tour	1982	5 items
Folder 3	"Christmas in the Country" Home Tour	1983	11 items
Folder 4	"Christmas in the Country" Home Tour	1985	2 items
Folder 5	"Christmas in the Country" Home Tour	1987	1 item
Folder 6	"Christmas in the Country" Home Tour	1989	1 item
Folder 7	"Christmas in the Country" Home Tour	1991	5 items
Folder 8	"Christmas in the Country" Home Tour	1994	1 item

### **Subseries 3 Community Improvement Program**

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Community Improvement Program</b>	<b>1956-1996</b>	<b>40 items</b>
Folder 1	Community Improvement Program	1956-1957	1 item
Folder 2	Community Improvement Program	1976	1 item
Folder 3	Community Improvement Program	1978-1980	15 items
Folder 4	Community Improvement Program	1980-1984	7 items
Folder 5	Community Improvement Program	1988-1990	1 item
Folder 6	Community Improvement Program	1990-1992	5 items
Folder 7	Community Improvement Program	1993-1996	10 items

### **Subseries 4 Press Books**

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Press Books</b>	<b>1979-1991</b>	<b>8 items</b>
Folder 1	Press book	1979	1 item
Folder 2	Press book	1980	3 items
Folder 3	Press book	1981	1 item
Folder 4	Press book	1982-1983	1 item
Folder 5	Press book	1988-1989	1 item
Folder 6	Press book	1990-1991	1 item

### **Subseries 5 Programs**

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Programs</b>	<b>1956-2014</b>	<b>33 items</b>
Folder 1	Club anniversary programs	1956-1984	8 items
Folder 2	Miscellaneous event programs	1914-2014	25 items

## Subseries 6 Miscellaneous Projects

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Miscellaneous Projects</b>	<b>1976-1998</b>	<b>43 items</b>
Folder 1	Smiths Grove-North Warren County Public Library	1982-1984	22 items
Folder 2	Old Country Store (Smiths Grove Lions Club Horse Show)	1989-1998	8 items
Folder 3	Pecan sales	1991-1995	5 items
Folder 4	Note cards – Smiths Grove historic buildings	[1976]	8 items

## SERIES IV FINANCIAL RECORDS

### Subseries 1 Financial Records

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Financial Records</b>	<b>1968-1995</b>	<b>53 items</b>
Folder 1	Financial records	1968-1974	1 item
Folder 2	Financial records	1970	1 item
Folder 3	Financial records	1974-1976	1 item
Folder 4	Financial records	1974-1979	3 items
Folder 5	Financial records	1976-1977	1 item
Folder 6	Financial records	1977-1978	1 item
Folder 7	Financial records	1979-1980	1 item
Folder 8	Financial records	1980-1981	1 item
Folder 9	Financial records	1981-1982	3 items
Folder 10	Financial records	1982-1985	6 items
Folder 11	Financial records	1982-1990	1 item
Folder 12	Financial records	1985-1988	8 items
Folder 13	Financial records	1988-1989	9 items



Folder 14	Financial records	1990-1991	9 items
Folder 15	Financial records	1992-1993	4 items
Folder 16	Financial records	1994-1995	3 items
<b>Box 2</b>	<b>Financial Records</b>	<b>1996-2007</b>	<b>29 items</b>
Folder 1	Financial records	1996-1997	8 items
Folder 2	Financial records	1997-1998	1 items
Folder 3	Financial records	1998-1999	5 items
Folder 4	Financial records	1999-2000	4 items
Folder 5	Financial records	2000-2001	3 items
Folder 6	Financial records	2003-2004	3 items
Folder 7	Financial records	2005-2006	4 items
Folder 8	Financial records	2006-2007	1 item

## **SERIES V Miscellaneous**

### **Subseries 1 Awards and Citations**

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Awards and Citations</b>	<b>1947-1997</b>	<b>87 items</b>
Folder 1	Awards and citations – Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs	1947-1983	26 items
Folder 2	Awards and citations – Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs	1984-1990	18 items
Folder 3	Awards and citations – Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs	1991-1996	10 items
Folder 4	Awards and citations – CARE	1962-1992	11 items
Folder 5	Awards and citations – Miscellaneous	1956-1997	22 items

**Subseries 2 Clippings**

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Clippings</b>	<b>1930-1992</b>	<b>139 items</b>
Folder 1	Clippings	1930-1959	31 items
Folder 2	Clippings	1960-1969	14 items
Folder 3	Clippings	1970-1979	29 items
Folder 4	Clippings	1980-1989	48 items
Folder 5	Clippings	1990-1992	8 items
Folder 6	Clippings	n.d.	9 items

**Subseries 3 Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs; General Federation of Women's Clubs**

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs; General Federation of Women's Clubs</b>	<b>1943-1994</b>	<b>33 items</b>
Folder 1	Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs; General Federation of Women's Clubs	1943-1989	15 items
Folder 2	Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs; General Federation of Women's Clubs	1990-1993	10 items
Folder 3	Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs; General Federation of Women's Clubs	1994-1996, n.d.	8 items

**Subseries 4 Miscellaneous**

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>1950-1983</b>	<b>29 items</b>
Folder 1	Brief club history and list of past presidents; Woman's Club library rules	n.d.	2 items
Folder 2	Administrative guidelines for clubs	n.d.	17 items
Folder 3	Member biographies (awards, nominations, memorials)	1965-1983, n.d.	7 items
Folder 4	Favors, keepsakes	n.d.	3 items

<b>Box 2</b>	<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>1950</b>	<b>1 item</b>
Folder 1	Scrapbook (oversized)	1950	1 item

### **Subseries 5 Photographs**

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Photographs</b>	<b>1956-1998</b>	<b>178 items</b>
Folder 1	Art Appreciation Week awards	1989, n.d.	23 items
Folder 2	"Christmas in the Country"	n.d.	17 items
Folder 3	College Heights Foundation scholarship fund	1982-1994	7 items
Folder 4	Community Improvement projects	1990-1992	7 items
Folder 5	Community Improvement – Smiths Grove welcome sign	1995	12 items
Folder 6	Old Country Store	1989-1998	5 items
Folder 7	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	1956	5 items
Folder 8	Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs	1984-1991	4 items
Folder 9	Lions Club Horse Show	n.d.	11 items
Folder 10	Smiths Grove-North Warren County Public Library	1982-1988	31 items
Folder 11	Smiths Grove parades	n.d.	11 items
Folder 12	Individuals	1982, n.d.	5 items
Folder 13	Miscellaneous photographs	1972-1975	2 items
Folder 14	Miscellaneous photographs	1978-1984	5 items
Folder 15	Miscellaneous photographs	1988-1995	7 items
Folder 16	Miscellaneous photographs	n.d.	9 items
Folder 17	Miscellaneous photographs	n.d.	9 items

