

A Guide to the Records of the Arlington County Women's Democratic Club, 1954-1974

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A Collection in Arlington Public Library, Center for Local History RG 171
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Title Statement

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Collection number

RG 171

Language

English

Creator

Arlington County Women's Democratic Club

Extent

2 boxes.

Repository

Arlington Public Library, Center for Local History

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Nancy T. Renfro, daughter of Sue Renfro, an active member of the club.

Preferred Citation

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Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Researchers interested in Arlington Democrats may consult numerous record groups, for example, [RG 137, Records of the Arlington County Democratic Committee](#). For information on Arlington women active in the Democratic Party, researchers may consult [RG 27, Personal Papers of Beulah Shipley Goss](#) (an active member of the club) and [RG 65, Personal Papers of Mary A. Marshall](#) (who served in the House of Delegates, 1966-1970, 1972-1992).

Historical Information

The Arlington County Women's Democratic Club was founded in 1932 with the purpose of furthering the ideals of the Democratic Party. Members were encouraged to work for the election of Democratic candidates. The club held monthly luncheon meetings with speakers, chiefly Democratic political figures active in Arlington County or Virginia politics. Sometimes the club held Virginia Democratic candidate forums, with multiple speakers. The group was somewhat conservative, reporting a gap between the club's opinions and those of the national Democratic organization by the early 1970s.

Scope and Content

Record Group 171 houses the records of the Arlington County Woman's Democratic Club, 1954-1974. The record group measures approximately one linear foot. Types of materials are bylaws, minutes, correspondence, newsletters, brochures, clippings, and photographs; most of the material are meeting minutes

Some members of the House of Delegates in the 1960s and 1970s were invited to their luncheon meetings, including Harrison Mann and Mary Marshall. Luncheon topics included the establishment of Northern Virginia Community College and George Mason University, mental health funding, revision of the state constitution, electoral redistricting, pollution of the Potomac River, and petroleum supply. The club favored no-fault auto insurance and state regulation of nursing homes but not busing for racial balance in the public schools or the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment for women.

The club also held some purely social events such as Christmas parties and the club produced a scrapbook for the 1963-1964 administrative year.

Index Terms

Subjects:

Women -- United States -- Societies and clubs.
Women in community organization
Voting -- United States.
Democratic Party (U.S.)
Democratic Party (Va.)
Political parties -- United States.
Virginia -- Politics and government
Arlington (Va.)
Arlington County (Va.)
Arlington County (Va.) -- Politics and government.

Arrangement

Record Group 171 is organized into six series by type of material. Within series the arrangement is chiefly chronological. There are photographs in Series 6, File 4, from the 1963-1964 scrapbook.

Contents List

Series 1: Constitution and Bylaws

File 1: Constitution and Bylaws, n.d., 1963, 1971
Box 1

Series 2: Membership

File 1: Membership Book, 1964
Box 1

File 2: Membership and Guest Book, 1959-1970
Box 1

Series 3: Minutes

File 1: Executive Committee Minutes, 1954-1961
Box 1

File 2: Regular Meeting Minutes, 1954-1961
Box 1

File 3: Executive Committee Minutes, 1962-1964
Box 1

File 4: Regular Meeting Minutes, 1962-1964
Box 1

File 5: Executive Committee Minutes, 1965-1966
Box 1

File 6: Regular Meeting Minutes, 1965-1966
Box 1

File 7: Executive Committee Minutes, 1967-1969
Box 1

File 8: Regular Meeting Minutes, 1967-1969
Box 1

File 9: Executive Committee Minutes, 1970-1973
Box 1

File 10: Regular Meeting Minutes, 1970-1973 (1)
Box 2

File 11: Regular Meeting Minutes, 1970-1973 (2)
Box 2

File 12: Regular Meeting Minutes, 1974
Box 2

Series 4: Correspondence

File 1: Stationery
Box 2

File 2: Correspondence, 1961-1974

Box 2

Series 5: Newsletters

File 1: Newsletters, 1967-1969

Box 2

Series 6: Brochures, Clippings, Photographs

File 1: Brochures, 1961-1967

Box 2

File 2: Clippings, n.d., 1964

Box 2

File 3: Press Notices and Pictures Scrapbook

Box 2

File 4: Photographs from Scrapbook, 1963-1964

Box 2