

A Guide to the Valerie Kitchens Papers, 1967-1992

Valerie Kitchens Papers, 1967-1992
1967-1992

A Collection in Arlington Public Library, Center for Local History RG 348
Arlington Public Library, Center for Local History
2018

Title Statement

A Guide to the Valerie Kitchens Papers, 1967-1992

Subtitle: Kitchens, Valerie, Papers

Collection: RG 348

Author: Heather Crocetto

Publication Statement

Date: © 2018 Arlington Public Library, Center for Local History

Publisher: Arlington Public Library, Center for Local History

Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word, created by Gregory Pierce, 24 August 2020

Language Usage: Description is in English

Descriptive Summary

Collection number

RG 348

Language

English

Creator

Kitchens, Valerie B. (Valerie Berman), 1937-2013

Extent

1 box.

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 the Arlington Historical Society in April 2014.

Preferred Citation

Valerie Kitchens Papers, Collection # RG 348, Arlington Public Library, Center for Local History

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Records

Researchers particularly interested in Kitchens' involvement with the Arlington Outdoor Education Association may find that organization's records, housed in [RG 111, Arlington Outdoor Education Association Records](#), particularly useful. Likewise, [RG94, Arlingtonians for a Better County](#) may include more details on Kitchens' work with ABC.

Biographical Information

Valerie B. Kitchens was a local activist for conservation, wildlife, parks, and other political issues that impacted Arlington County and Northern Virginia. Kitchens became an influential force in several conservation organizations, including as a board member for Friends of Arlington Parks and the Arlington Outdoor Education Association. Birding and ornithology remained a special passion of Kitchens throughout her life. Active in local bird watching groups, Kitchens served as President of the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Virginia Society of Ornithology. In broader local politics, Kitchens also was a part of the Arlingtonians for a Better County (ABC), a non-partisan organization that supports and campaigns for candidates for both the Arlington County Board and School Board, as well as other local issues.

Kitchens was born on January 24, 1937, in Cresskill, New Jersey to Otto and Eva Berman. In 1964, she earned a master's degree in Foreign Affairs from Georgetown University. In the same year, she married Allen H. Kitchens. They had two children, Sharon and Jeffrey. Kitchens passed away on February 16, 2013, in Arlington, Virginia.

Scope and Content

This small collection spans approximately .5 linear feet and dates from 1967-2010, with the bulk of materials dating from the late 1960s, as well as 1979-1992. The materials constitute a few records Valerie Kitchens saved from her involvement and membership in several conservation oriented groups, including the Arlington Outdoor Education Association, Audubon Naturalist Society, and Friends of Arlington Parks. Materials include newsletters, meeting minutes, agendas, correspondence, and as well as publications about local conservation issues. Additionally, there are papers Valerie and her husband, Allen, completed in the late 1960s recording use of bluebird houses for the Audubon Naturalist Society.

Index Terms

Subjects:

Parks -- Virginia
Outdoor education
Community organization.
Arlington (Va.)
Arlington County (Va.)

Arrangement

These materials were divided into five series based on subject matter. The first three contain records Valerie Kitchens used and created as a member of three organizations. Series 1 contains Kitchens directors file for the Arlington Outdoor Education Association. Series 2 holds materials related to Audubon Naturalist Society and Kitchens' ornithology related projects and writings. Series 3 covers her involvement with Friends of Arlington Parks. This series is divided into two subseries, one for newsletters (many of which Kitchens edited) and one for Kitchens' extant folder of meeting notes, which include minutes, agendas, correspondence, constitution, and bylaws. Series 4 holds several publications related to parks and conservation Kitchens used and Series 5, Subject Files, holds miscellaneous materials.

Contents List

Series 1: Arlington Outdoor Education Association

File 1: "AOEA [Valerie Kitchen's] Director File," 1984-1987 (1)

Box 1

File: "AOEA [Valerie Kitchen's] Director File," 1984-1987 (2)

Box 1

Series 2: Audubon Naturalist Society and Orinthology

File 1: Naturalist Notes Newsletters, 1968-1969

Box 1

File 2: "The Eastern Bluebird: An Endangered Species," by Valerie Kitchens, 1969

Box 1

File 3: Bluebird House Instructions and Project Questionnaires, 1967

Box 1

File 4: Correspondence, 2001

Box 1

Series 3: Friends of Arlington Parks

Subseries 1: Newsletters

File 1: 1979-1989

Box 1

File 2: 1990-1992

Box 1

Series 2: Meeting Notes

File 1: "Meeting Notes," [Bylaws, Constitution, Correspondence, and Board List], 1979-1980, 1983-1985

Box 1

Series 4: Publications

File 1: Critical Environmental Areas, Virginia, December 1972

Box 1

File 2: The Nature Conservancy: 50 Years of Conservation in Virginia, 2010

Box 1

File 3: Potomac Overlook REgional Park Proposal, n.d.

Box 1

File 4: Trail Guide, W&OD Regional Park, n.d.

Box 1

Series 5: Subject Files

File 1: Clean Water bumper sticker

Box 1

File 2: Meadowlark Gardens Regional Park brochure, 1987

Box 1

File 3: Ethics for Travelling Outdoorsmen, Outdoor Ethics Guild, 1967

Box 1

Arlington Public Library, Center for Local History