

A Guide to the Sesame Club Records, 1932-2011

Sesame Club Records 1932-2011
1932-2011

A Collection in the Thomas Balch Library M 027
Thomas Balch Library
2006

Author: Rebecca K. Ottinger

History

Processed by: Rebecca K. Ottinger

Title Statement

A Guide to the Sesame Club Records, 1932-2011

Subtitle: Sesame Club Records

Collection: M 027

Author: Rebecca K. Ottinger

Publication Statement

Date: © 2006 By Thomas Balch Library. All rights reserved.

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Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word, created by Beth Schuster, 20 February 2008

Language Usage: Description is in English

Revision Description

29 May 2009, 25 April 2012 Added folders 1-7

2013-11-21 Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

Descriptive Summary

Collection number

M 027

Language

English

Abstract

Programs and attendance records of the Sesame Club, constituted "to study history, sociology, art and literature for the cultural improvement of the members."

Creator

Sesame Club

Extent

1.15 cu. ft.

Repository

Thomas Balch Library

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Open for research.

Use Restrictions

No physical characteristics affect the use of this material.

Acquisition Information

Ann Thomas, Round Hill, VA.

Processing Information

Processed by Rebecca K. Ottinger, 12 Feb 2007. Updated by Rebecca K. Ottinger, 2008, 2009, 2012.

This is an open collection; additions will be made periodically. There are extra program booklets for some years (located in Box 4, Folder 5); these may be used for display. Copies of *Elizabeth Stowe: The Collected Stories by Elizabeth Stowe* (VREF FICTION STO) are also available in the library's fiction collection.

Preferred Citation

Sesame Club Records, 1932-2011 (M 027), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

Accruals

2006.0157, 2012.0060

Alternative Form Available

A CD of club constitutions and a CD of club history are filed in Box 4, Folder 6.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

None

Bibliography

Sesame Club Records, 1932-2011 (M 027), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA

Other Finding Aid

None

Technical Requirements

CD-Rom capable computer

Historical Information

Late in 1932, nine women living in western Loudoun County, VA who were interested in enriching their lives established Sesame Club. The charter members were Martha McComb (19 Jun 1897-Mar 1972), Nan Cornwell (20 Jun 1897-Jan 1988), Louise Hawthorne (11 Dec 1898-Jul 1994), Alice Kerr Stehle, Evelyn Taylor Adams Litton (22 Oct 1904-9 Jan 1999), Margaret S. Taylor Chamblin (24 Mar 1901-10 Aug 1968), Sally R. Speer (nd), Julia Monroe (22 Aug 1892-Apr 1984), and Alice James (12 Jan 1887-20 May 1946). The club's constitution says, "The purpose of Sesame shall be to study history, sociology, art and literature for the cultural improvement of the members." From 1932 to 1952 Sesame's fiscal and program year was from September to September; in 1952 it was changed to begin in January.

The structure of the club is rather informal; the constitution provides that a nominating committee, appointed in September, propose a slate of officers consisting of president, vice-president, and secretary-treasurer who are elected in November to serve one year terms. The constitution also provides for the August appointment of a program committee. The committee is responsible for selecting a topic for the following year and assigning club members to prepare and present programs, which are given at each regular monthly meeting. Meetings are usually held in the home of one of the members. Ad hoc committees can and have been appointed as needed. Throughout the club's history program topics have included the history and culture of a number of countries, literature, music, fashion, art, and many other areas of interest.

Scope and Content

At the time of processing these records date from 1932 when the club was established and continue through 2006; it is an open collection - additions will be made periodically since the club is still active. The records of early years are incomplete, and from May 1943 until August 1944 the club did not meet. It reconvened in that month and has continued to meet regularly. Until 1947 programs were written and presented by members. Since that time, programs have been oral. Efforts have been made to obtain and preserve written copies of more recent programs and, when available, these are included in the files.

Contents List

Box 1

Folder 1: A history of the club, list of members, list of program topics, financial records for 1980-1981

Folder 2: Club Constitutions

Folder 3: List of members for 1934; written programs on Russia presented during 1933-1934

Folder 4: Attendance record for 1935, written programs on the British Isles and Asia presented during 1935-1935

Folder 5: Attendance record for 1936, written programs on Scandinavia presented during 1935-1936

Folder 6: Written programs on Our Heritage presented during 1936-1937

Folder 7: Written programs on Asia (?)

Folder 8: Attendance records for 1938-1939; written programs on Modern Women

Folder 9: Written programs on Travel by Waterways of Europe presented during 1939-1940

Folder 10: Program booklet on Discovering South America; attendance and financial record for 1942-1943

Folder 11: Minutes for 1944

Folder 12: Attendance record, minutes, and written programs on Pacific World 1945-1946

Folder 13: Attendance record, financial record, and minutes for 1946-1947

Folder 14: Attendance record and minutes for 1948; one written program on China

Folder 15: Attendance record and minutes for 1948

Folder 16: One program on the topic of Plays and the Modern World

Box 2

Folder 1: Program Booklets for 1950s; financial record for 1953

Folder 2: Program list for 1960; program booklets for 1961-1965

Folder 3: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1966

Folder 4: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1967

Folder 5: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1968

Folder 6: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1969

Folder 7: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1970

Folder 8: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1971

Folder 9: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1972

Folder 10: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1973

Folder 11: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1974

Folder 12: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1975

Folder 13: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1976

Folder 14: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1977

Folder 15: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1978

Folder 16: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1979

Folder 17: Attendance record, and minutes for 1980

Folder 18: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1981

Folder 19: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1982

Folder 20: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1983

Folder 21: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1984

Folder 22: Program booklet, attendance record, minutes for 1985; six written programs

Folder 23: Program booklet, attendance record, minutes for 1986; three written programs

Folder 24: Program booklet, attendance record, minutes for 1987; three written programs

Folder 25: Program booklet, attendance record, minutes for 1988; one

Folder 26: Program booklet, attendance record, minutes for 1989; six written programs

Box 3

Folder 1: Attendance record and minutes for 1990; four written programs

Folder 2: Attendance record and minutes for 1991; four written programs

Folder 3: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1992

Folder 4: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1993

Folder 5: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1994

Folder 6: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1995, one written program

Folder 7: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1996

Folder 8: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1997

Folder 9: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1998

Folder 10: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 1999

Folder 11: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 2000

Folder 12: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 2001

Folder 13: Program booklet and minutes for 2002

Folder 14: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 2003, one written program

Folder 15: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 2004; four written programs

Folder 16: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 2005, Eight (8) written programs on Islam.

Folder 17: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 2006

Box 4

Folder 1: Miscellaneous correspondence

Folder 2: Miscellaneous written programs

Folder 3: Miscellaneous written programs

Folder 4: Obituaries and miscellaneous newspaper clippings about Sesame Club and its members

Folder 5: Extra program booklets

Folder 6: Two CDs--one of Club Constitutions and one of club history

Folder 7: Volume 1 of bound copies of published stories by Elizabeth (Betty) Stowe, Sesame member 1986-2004

Folder 8: Volume 2 of bound copies of published stories by Elizabeth (Betty) Stowe

Box 5

Folder 1: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 2007, Eleven written programs

Folder 2: Program, pictures, notes from 75th Anniversary Luncheon, November 17, 1997; pictures of display at Thomas Balch Library (October, 2007) (folder 1 of 2)

Folder 3: Program, pictures, notes from 75th Anniversary Luncheon, November 17, 1997; pictures of display at Thomas Balch Library (October, 2007) (folder 2 of 2)

Folder 4: Program booklet, attendance record, and minutes for 2008, nine written programs

Folder 5: Program booklet, attendance record, minutes for 2009. Nine (9) written programs on Ancient Civilizations.

Folder 6: Program booklet, attendance record, minutes for 2010. Eight (8) written programs on Ethobotany.

Folder 7: Program booklet, minutes for 2011, written programs for "Our Journey Through Hallowed Ground"