

A Guide to the Planters' Club Records, 1915-2013

Planters' Club Records 1915-2013
1915-2013

A Collection in the Thomas Balch Library M 061
Thomas Balch Library
2006

Author: Donna Jamison and Elizabeth E. Preston

History

Processed by: Donna Jamison and Elizabeth E. Preston

Title Statement

A Guide to the Planters' Club Records, 1915-2013

Subtitle: Planters' Club Records

Collection: M 061

Author: Donna Jamison and Elizabeth E. Preston

Publication Statement

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

Publisher: Thomas Balch Library

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Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word, created by Elizabeth E. Preston, 22 February 2013

Language Usage: Description is in English

Revision Description

2014-01-14 Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

Descriptive Summary

Collection number

M 061

Language

English

Abstract

This collection is made up of the minutes of the Planters' Club, including many of reports and presentations by the members during meetings. Also included are newspaper clippings circulated to members; correspondence and receipts that were part of the official minutes; printed materials such as brochures and advertisements that were handed out at meetings; and tables of commodity prices and real estate sales.

Creator

Planters' Club, Loudoun County, VA

Repository

Thomas Balch Library

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection open for research.

Use Restrictions

No physical characteristics affect use of this material.

Acquisition Information

Planters' Club, Loudoun County, VA

Processing Information

Formerly cataloged as NUCMC 35. This is an open collection.

Donna Jamison and Elizabeth E. Preston, 19 February 2013

Preferred Citation

Planters' Club Records (M 061), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

Accruals

1992.0008, 2006.0104, 2007.0058, 2008.0029, 2009.0104, 2010.0152, 2011.0012, 2012.0023, 2013.0020, 2014.0005

Alternative Form Available

None

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Catoctin Farmers' Club Records (M 034), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

Bibliography

Loudoun Times-Mirror

Catoctin Farmers' Club Records, 1868-1983 (M 034), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

Loudoun County Cemetery Database, <http://www.leesburgva.gov/index.aspx?page=940> (accessed 19 February 2013).

Planters' Club Records, 1915-2012 (M 061), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

From Frontier to Suburbia: Loudoun County Virginia, One of America's Fastest Growing Counties

Scheel, Eugene. Telephone interview with Elizabeth E. Preston, 19 February 2013.

Other Finding Aid

None

Technical Requirements

None

Historical Information

Loudoun County was home to several farmers' organizations founded in the years between the Civil War and World War I. These organizations were products of Populism and the Progressive Era, and were part of

Loudoun County's effort to recover economically and agriculturally from the destruction of the Civil War. Farmers' clubs fostered cooperation among the county's farmers, leading to improvements in animal husbandry and agricultural techniques. Advances in farming led to the desire to purchase fertilizer and farm implements from outside the county, and clubs made it possible for farmers to make expensive purchases cooperatively. Clubs also kept farmers' aware of current prices on many products, allowing them to make informed decisions on when to buy and sell, and at what price.

Several clubs operated in the years following the Civil War, including the Patrons of Husbandry, also called the Grange, Catoctin Farmers' Club, and Aldie Farmers' Club. The Grange ceased operation after a few years, but the farmers' clubs gained traction. Lovettsville Farmers' Club was formed in 1911, and the Planters' Club in 1915. Meetings were similar across the clubs, with most held at the home of one of the members. They included reports of current market prices, presentations by members or invited speakers on topics of concern to the farmers, tours of the hosts' farms and barns, and refreshments.

Most clubs restricted their membership to ensure that club meetings could be held comfortably at the homes of members. As the effectiveness and popularity of the clubs grew, it became necessary to either expand membership or form new clubs. In 1915, Catoctin Farmers' Club was full and turning away new applicants for membership. Several farmers met in Leesburg on 19 February 1915 to discuss the possibility of starting a new farmers' club. In attendance were LeRoy Chamberlin (1883-1952), Henry Clarke Winslow (1877-1968), Thomas M. Fendall (1875-1948), Frank E. Saunders (1886-1966), and William A. Metzger (1874-1948). The new club, called the Planters' Club, was officially organized on 6 March 1915. The club elected officers: president, Winslow; vice president, Fendall; secretary, Metzger. While the Planters' Club drew some of its membership from the Catoctin Farmers' Club, there does not seem to have been any animosity or competition between the two clubs.

The Planters' Club followed the template set by earlier clubs and their meetings resembled them in most details. Initially only farmers were invited to join the club, but the membership now includes people associated with rural life in other ways, such as veterinarians, farm machinery dealers, and county extension agents. The topics covered by meeting programs have also expanded, and often include political developments, agricultural subsidies, and inheritance laws. Real estate prices and development have dominated discussions in recent years. The Planters' Club is still active.

Scope and Content

This collection is made up of the minutes of the Planters' Club, including many of reports and presentations by the members during meetings. Also included are newspaper clippings circulated to members; correspondence and receipts that were part of the official minutes; printed materials such as brochures and advertisements that were handed out at meetings; and tables of commodity prices and real estate sales.

Arrangement

Chronological

Contents List

Box 1

Folder 1: Miscellaneous, undated

Folder 2: Minutes, 1915

Folder 3: Minutes, 1916

Folder 4: Minutes, 1917

Folder 5: Minutes, 1918-1920

Folder 6: Minutes, 1921-1923

Folder 7: Minutes, 1924-1927

Folder 8: Minutes, 1935

Folder 9: Minutes, 1936

Folder 10: Minutes, 1937-1938

Folder 11: Minutes, 1939-1940

Folder 12: Minutes, 1941

Folder 13: Minutes, 1942

Folder 14: Minutes, 1943

Folder 15: Minutes, 1944

Folder 16: Minutes, 1945

Folder 17: Minutes, 1946

Folder 18: Minutes, 1947

Box 2

Folder 1: Minutes, 1948

Folder 2: Minutes, 1957-1958

Folder 3: Minutes, 1959

Folder 4: Minutes, 1960

Folder 5: Minutes, 1961

Folder 6: Minutes, 1962

Folder 7: Minutes, 1963

Folder 8: Minutes, 1964

Folder 9: Minutes, 1965-1966

Folder 10: Minutes, 1967-1968

Folder 11: Minutes 1969-1970

Folder 12: Minutes, 1971-1973

Folder 13: Minutes, 1974-1976

Folder 14: Minutes, 1977

Folder 15: Minutes, 1978

Box 3

Folder 1: Minutes, 1979

Folder 2: Minutes, 1980

Folder 3: Minutes, 1981

Folder 4: Minutes, 1982

Folder 5: Minutes, 1983-1984

Folder 6: Minutes, 1985

Folder 7: Minutes, 1986-1987

Folder 8: Minutes, 1988-1989, 1992

Folder 9: Minutes, 1995-1996

Folder 10: Minutes, 1997

Folder 11: Minutes, 1997

Folder 12: Minutes, 1998

Folder 13: Minutes, 1998

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Box 4

Folder 1: Minutes, 2000

Folder 2: Minutes, 2000

Folder 3: Minutes, 2001

Folder 4: Minutes, 2001

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Folder 6: Minutes, 2002

Folder 7: Minutes, 2004

Folder 8: Minutes, 2005

Folder 9: Minutes, 2005

Folder 10: Minutes, 2006

Folder 11: Minutes, 2006

Folder 12: Minutes, 2007

Folder 13: Minutes, 2007

Box 5

Folder 1: Minutes, 2008

Folder 2: Minutes, 2008

Folder 3: Minutes, 2009

Folder 4: Minutes, 2009

Folder 5: Minutes, 2010

Folder 6: Minutes, 2010

Folder 7: Minutes, 2011

Folder 8: Minutes, 2011

Folder 9: Minutes, 2012

Folder 10: Minutes, 2013