

Collection #
M 1451

**BOOK LOVER'S CLUB OF INDIANAPOLIS
RECORDS, 1916-2016**

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Processed by

Paul Brockman
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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 3 manuscript boxes, 1 folder black and white photographs.

COLLECTION DATES: 1916-2016

PROVENANCE: Book Lover's Club of Indianapolis (Decatur Twp.), November, 2016

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2016.0138

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Book Lover's Club had its first meeting in November, 1912 near Stop 10 on the Martinsville Electric Line. It was initially called the Priscilla Club and had its first meeting at the John and Elva Mendenhall home. The club was initially limited to ten members and to meet monthly exchanging ideas, improving needlecraft, and promoting general friendship. Gossiping was discouraged. Elva Mendenhall served as president from its inception until 1921. The activities of the group began to change more from needlework to literature and poetry which became the dominant focus of the meetings. In 1920 was changed to the Book Lover's Club to reflect the change in direction. Membership was gradually increased before stopping at twenty. The club soon became affiliated with the State and National Federation of Clubs. Membership in the State Federation of Clubs was later dropped. A revised constitution was written in 1962, and on 27 October 1912, the club celebrated its 100th Anniversary with an open house gathering at the Decatur Township Public Library.

Sources:

Information in collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection is comprised of the meeting minutes of Book Lover's Club 1922-2009 and the club's program books, 1924-2016. Also included is the original constitution from 1916 and the 1962 revision of the 1920 constitutions.

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