

Collection #  
M 1054

**CONTEMPORARY CLUB OF INDIANAPOLIS  
RECORDS, CA. 1974–2006**

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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 3 manuscript boxes, 1 photographs folder

COLLECTION DATES: ca. 1974–2006

PROVENANCE: Thomas Krasean, Indianapolis, IN

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Contemporary Club of Indianapolis, 1890–1940: Golden Anniversary Dinner, pam HQ1906.I55 C662 1940; Constitution, Officers, Members... pam HQ1906.I55 C63; Contemporary Club of Indianapolis, 1890–65, HQ1906.I55 C663 1965; Contemporary Club of Indianapolis, 1890–1940, HQ1906.I55 C66 1940

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2012.0190; 2019.0189

NOTES:

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

The Contemporary Club of Indianapolis was organized at the home of May Wright and Theodore Sewall on June 27, 1890. The purpose of the Club is both for socializing and for intellectual engagement, and membership is open to both men and women equally. Before the Contemporary Club, the only way women would get to engage with high profile speakers was on Ladies Night at the Literary Club. The Club invites speakers and entertainers from a variety of backgrounds and areas of interest/study to put on a program for them. The Club has been informed and entertained by such notables as Woodrow Wilson, Booker T. Washington, Claude Rains, Henry James, and Gertrude Stein.

In the early days of the Club, meetings were held at the Propylaeum, but in later years, the Club held meetings and programs at various venues throughout the city. Meetings and programs are held anywhere from four to six times a year and many times allowed for a dinner hour and a social hour in which members could engage with the speaker and each other. In the beginning, membership in the Club was capped at 200 people, but membership was allowed to 600 people.

Sources: Materials in the collection.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Materials in this collection include correspondence relating to planning meetings and getting speakers for each year, as well as membership lists, records of annual dues, and some financial (mostly tax) information. Also included are flyers sent out to members describing the Club's programs, some histories of the club, and yearbooks that listed club officers, members, and programs for each year.

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