

Collection #
SC 3420
BV 5349-51

**ERMA SAUER
SCRAPBOOKS, 1950-1985**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 3 bound volumes; 5 manuscript folders; 1 cold storage color photograph folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1950-1985

PROVENANCE: Erma R. (Mrs. Carl) Sauer, Indianapolis, Indiana

RESTRICTIONS: Items listed as being in Cold Storage need at least four hours to acclimate, so patrons are advised to call ahead of their visit if they wish to view those items to allow for thawing time.

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Citizens Forum Inc. Records M 0425; *Directory of Clubs and Club Members Affiliated with the Federation of Clubs of the Seventh District*, HS2513.I55 F33; Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Collection M 0868; Stansfield Circle Collection M 1153; *Woman's Department Club of Indianapolis (Yearbook)*, HQ1906.I55 D4; Woman's Department Club Records M 1189; Woman's Department Club Records Addition M 1265

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1996.0935X

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Erma Ruth Swain was born in Union, Parke County, Indiana, on 8 January 1908 to John Swain and Mary Cannon. She lived in Know, Starke County, in 1920 before moving to Bremen, Marshall County, and attending Bremen High School. In 1925, Erma was editor-in-chief of the same Bremen High School publication as Carl Martin Sauer, whom she married in the 1930s. They were living in Indianapolis in 1940, where he was a salesman for electrical products. During this time, Erma taught elementary school for nine years. Eventually Carl Sauer became president of the Reuas Engineering Company of Indianapolis.

In 1950 Erma Sauer began her involvement in community groups and clubs. Until the 1980s, she founded, chaired, led, and participated in many clubs, groups, and programs, all while hosting gatherings for these groups in her home and elsewhere. In the 1970s, she received the Sagamore of the Wabash Award and the Governor's Voluntary Action Award from Governor Dr. Otis R. Bowen, and she was honored by the Indianapolis Professional Chapter of Women in Communications. Erma Sauer passed away in Indianapolis on 9 November 1998 at the age of 90, less than three months after her husband.

The following are highlights of Erma Sauer's club and group involvement, roughly in chronological order:

- Leader of Women's Group of North Methodist Church
- Public relations chairman of Woman's Society of Christian Service
- Promotion chairman, then vice-president, then president of Methodist City Council Auxiliary
- Chairman of Institute on Parliamentary Procedure (1957)
- First vice-president, then president of Indianapolis Council of Women
- First vice-president, then president of Seventh District of Indiana Federation of Clubs; nominated for General Federation of Women's Clubs "Woman of Achievement" Award
- President of Indiana Historical Council (past presidents of Council of Women)
- President of Woman's Department Club
- President of Stansfield Circle
- Founder of sustaining group of Stansfield Circle
- Founder of Volunteers in Educational Work Club
- President of International Travel-Study Club Federation
- Founder and president of Aristo Club
- Founder and president of Indianapolis Humane Society Auxiliary
- Founder of Keep Indianapolis Beautiful
- Chairman of Citizens Forum Beautification Committee
- President of Clowes Hall Women's Club/Committee
- President and founder of Indianapolis Arthritis Guild
- Founder of Café Y Cultura Club
- Founder of Homefire-Lites Club
- Founder of Prexy Club
- Founder of The Sermatones

- On Indianapolis Humane Society Board of Directors, ca. 1982
- President of United Methodist Women's Organization
- Founder of Family Support Center Auxiliary

Sources:

Material in collection

Ancestry.com

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains scrapbooks with clippings of Erma Sauer's community philanthropy and social activity from 1950 to 1985. The individual folders contain items that were loose in the scrapbooks.

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CONTENTS

Certificates of Appreciation, 1967-1985

Erma Sauer, undated, 1979

Erma Sauer articles, 1956-1984

Erma Sauer Day program, 18 May 1979

Indianapolis Arthritis Guild, 1978-1979

Miscellaneous, 1960s-1970s

Scrapbook, 1950-1973

Scrapbook, 1974-1977

Seventh District of Indiana Federation of Clubs
Scrapbook, 1964-1966

CONTAINER

Folder 1 of 5

Cold Storage:
Color Photographs
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BV 5350

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