

Collection #
M 0429

FEDERATION OF ASSOCIATED CLUBS (INDIANAPOLIS, IND.) RECORDS, 1937–1978

Collection Information	1
Historical Sketch	2
Scope and Content Note	3
Contents	4

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 10 manuscript boxes, 11 photograph folders, 5 OVA photograph folder, 1 OVC photograph folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1937-1978

PROVENANCE: Gift of Starling W. James, Indianapolis, IN, July 1985

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1985.0623

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Federation of Associated Clubs, Incorporated was founded in Indianapolis in November, 1937 by Starling W. James. The FAC, as it was commonly known, actively participated in educational, social, civic, and economic issues concerning the black community through scholarships, petitions, civic gatherings and campaigns. Socially, the club annually toured numerous foreign countries as well as many places in the United States. Initially, the organization united nine local social clubs and later grew to include 125 different clubs. Under the guidance of the FAC, those groups published *The Federation News*, a newsletter that informed the membership and communicated FAC ideas to the black community. The Federation campaigned for such things as desegregation, upgrading black neighborhoods, election of black officials to the school board and as state representatives. Like its founder, the FAC reflected the middle class black community's values and standards.

Starling James, founder of the FAC, was formerly a teacher in Kansas City. Always actively involved in civil rights for blacks, James received heavy criticism for his activities in Kansas City and was forced to leave. He relocated in Indianapolis in 1927. His purpose for organizing the FAC was to alleviate social injustices, legal inequalities and economic problems of blacks in Indianapolis through the organization of clubs already in existence. He remained president of the Federation of Associated Clubs throughout its duration.

Source: Materials in collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Records of Federation of Associated Clubs, Incorporated were donated by Starling James to the Indiana Historical Society through the efforts of the Black Women In The Middle West Project. Most of the material in the collection reflects the social activities of the organization rather than the business aspects of the club. The collection consists of general correspondence, minutes, committee reports and activities, various financial reports, newsletters, journals, newspaper clippings, tour related information, and miscellaneous material.

Box 1, (folders 1-17) contains general correspondence from 1950-1978. Although the correspondence is incomplete, material pertaining to art exhibits by black artists, community action and membership requests are included. Minutes of the board of directors and the advisory committee for 1965 and 1966, consists mostly of committee reports and monthly activities. Also included are names of board of directors, clubs affiliated with the Association, member directories and some financial material which consists of financial reports, cancelled checks and receipts, a history of the Federation Of Associated Clubs, newsletters, pamphlets, and journals associated with the club. Newspaper clippings, mostly concerning yearly trips, are also contained in this box. A preliminary overview of black employment in 1948 complete the box.

Box 1 (folders 18-31) contains all material associated with the activities and programs of the club. Several clubs working within the Federation are represented through programs, meetings, and correspondence. The miscellaneous material contained in this box represents such things as a travelogue, banquet material, homecoming observance and dedication programs.

Boxes 2-8 contain correspondence, filed chronologically, from hotels, travel agents, and bus companies to Starling James concerning preparation for trips. Replies from Mr. James, itineraries, passenger lists, and miscellaneous material related to the specific tour but not directly addressed to Starling James are also included in this box. Box 8 also has correspondence for the cancelled tours to Europe in 1956, Northwest United States in 1971, Mexico in 1973, and the Orient in 1978.

Box 8 and 9 include consists of miscellaneous tour material, such as correspondence not associated with tour correspondence in other boxes, song sheets for trips, postcards, and games for the bus trips.

Box 9-10 contain miscellaneous scrapbook materials on Starling James, the Federation of Associated Clubs, Inc., and Indianapolis.

Photographs from the collection are accessible through Visual Collections, and the following books have been catalogued in Printed Collections: *History of the Federated Association of Clubs, 1939-1949* and *History of the Federation of Associated Clubs, Incorporated 1939-1975*. E 185.93 .I4 D35 1976

CONTENTS

BOX 1: General Records; Activities and Programs

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
General Correspondence, 1950-1977	Box 1, Folder 1
General Correspondence, Undated	Box 1, Folder 2
Minutes, Board of Directors, 1965-1966	Box 1, Folder 3
Minutes, Advisory Committee, 1965	Box 1, Folder 4
List of Board of Directors	Box 1, Folder 5
List of Affiliated Clubs-1977	Box 1, Folder 6
Directories and Rosters, 1946-1947, 1955-1956, 1975	Box 1, Folder 7
Financial Records, 1964, 1983	Box 1, Folder 8
General Financial Material, 1953, 1973, 1974	Box 1, Folder 9
The Federation of Associated Clubs, Its History And Impact On Black Life In Indianapolis, 1937-1975	Box 1, Folder 10
FAC pamphlet, Undated	Box 1, Folder 12
FAC Newsletter, 1962	Box 1, Folder 13
Federation News, 1938, 1945, 1952, 1964	Box 1, Folder 14
FAC Journal, September 9, 1957	Box 1, Folder 15
"Chatting with the F.A.C." by Bessie James, manuscripts submitted to Indianapolis Recorder	Box 1, Folder 16
Newspaper clippings, 1951-1977	Box 1, Folder 17
A Preliminary Survey Of Integration Of Negroes Into Employment In Indianapolis, 9-1948	Box 1, Folder 18
Wyleaway Bridge Club, 1971-1976	Box 1, Folder 19
Cheer Committee-1973	Box 1, Folder 20

Activities Committee, 1950 - 1975	Box 1, Folder 21
Civic And Public Relation Committee, 1962 - 1974	Box 1, Folder 22
Civic And Legislative Committee, 1962, 1964, 1965	Box 1, Folder 23
Health And Welfare Committee, 1947 - 1962	Box 1, Folder 23
Constitution For Mr. And Mrs. Social Club Committee, 1977	Box 1, Folder 24
Central Indiana Council on Aging, Inc., 2 - 1978	Box 1, Folder 25
Certificates Presented to Starling James, 1973, 1977	Box 1, Folder 26
Negro History Observance Material, 1935 - 1950	Box 1, Folder 27
Negro Directory, Indiana, 1939 - 1940	Box 1, Folder 28
Awards Banquet Programs	Box 1, Folder 29
Souvenir Programs & Booklets	Box 1, Folder 30
Miscellaneous Material	Box 1, Folder 31

BOX 2: Tours

COLORADO TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 11-1945	Box 2, Folder 1
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1946-4-1946	Box 2, Folder 2
Business letters to Starling James, 5-1946 - 6-1946	Box 2, Folder 3
Business letters to Starling James, 7-1946	Box 2, Folder 4
Business letters to Starling James, Undated	Box 2, Folder 5
Individual letters to Starling James, 1946	Box 2, Folder 6
Letters from Starling James, 4-1946 - 5-1946	Box 2, Folder 7

Letters from Starling James, 6-1946	Box 2, Folder 8
Miscellaneous Tour Correspondence, 1946	Box 2, Folder 9

CALIFORNIA TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 1-1947-2-1947

Business letters to Starling James, 3-1947-4-1947

Business letters to Starling James, 5-1947-6-1947

Business letters to Starling James, 7-1947-12-1947

Business letters to Starling James, Undated

Individual Letters to Starling James, 8-1947

Letters from Starling James, 1-1947-2-1947

Letters from Starling James, 3-1947-5-1947

Letters from Starling James, 6-1947-12-1947

Miscellaneous correspondence, 1947

Itineraries, 1947

List of Passengers, 1947

Miscellaneous material, 1947

CONTAINER

Box 2, Folder 10

Box 2, Folder 11

Box 2, Folder 12

Box 2, Folder 13

Box 2, Folder 14

Box 2, Folder 15

Box 2, Folder 16

Box 2, Folder 17

Box 2, Folder 18

Box 2, Folder 19

Box 2, Folder 20

Box 2, Folder 21

Box 2, Folder 22

QUEBEC, MONTREAL, ATLANTIC SEABOARD TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 9-1947-10-1947

Business letters to Starling James, 11-1947-12-1947

Business letters to Starling James, 1-1948-2-1948

CONTAINER

Box 2, Folder 23

Box 2, Folder 24

Box 2, Folder 25

Business letters to Starling James, 3-1948-4-1948	Box 2, Folder 26
Business letters to Starling James, 5-1948-6-1948	Box 2, Folder 27
Business letters to Starling James, 7-1948	Box 2, Folder 28
Business letters to Starling James, 8-1948-9-1948	Box 2, Folder 29
Individual Letters to Starling James, 5-1948	Box 2, Folder 30
Letters from Starling James, 7-1948	Box 2, Folder 31
Letters from Starling James, Undated	Box 2, Folder 32
Itinerary, 1948	Box 2, Folder 33
List of Passengers, 1948	Box 2, Folder 34
Miscellaneous Financial Material, 1947-1948	Box 2, Folder 35

MEXICO CITY TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 6-1948-9-1948
Business letters to Starling James, 10-1948-12-1948
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1949-4-1949
Business letters to Starling James, 5-1949-6-1949
Business letters to Starling James, 7-1949
Business letters to Starling James, 8-1949-9-1949
Letters from Starling James, 2-1949-11-1949
Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1949
Itinerary, 1949
List of Passengers, 1949
Miscellaneous financial material, Undated

CONTAINER

Box 2, Folder 36
Box 2, Folder 37
Box 2, Folder 38
Box 2, Folder 39
Box 2, Folder 40
Box 2, Folder 41
Box 2, Folder 42
Box 2, Folder 43
Box 2, Folder 44
Box 2, Folder 45
Box 2, Folder 46

Miscellaneous material, 1949

Box 2, Folder 47

BOX 3: Tours

VANCOUVER TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 9-1949

Business letters to Starling James, 11-1949

Business letters to Starling James, 12-1949

Business letters to Starling James, 1-1950

Business letters to Starling James, 3-1950-4-1950

Business letters to Starling James, 5-1950-7-1950

Letters from Starling James, 10-1949-12-1949

Letters from Starling James, 4-1950

Itinerary and list of passengers, 1950

CONTAINER

Box 3, Folder 1

Box 3, Folder 2

Box 3, Folder 3

Box 3, Folder 4

Box 3, Folder 5

Box 3, Folder 6

Box 3, Folder 7

Box 3, Folder 8

Box 3, Folder 9

HAITI, JAMAICA, CUBA TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 7-1950-12-1950

Business letters to Starling James, 1-1951-3-1951

Business letters to Starling James, 4-1951

Business letters to Starling James, 5-1951

Business letters to Starling James, 6-1-1951-6-5-1951

Business letters to Starling James, 6-8-1951-6-29-1951

Business letters to Starling James, 7-1951-9-1951

CONTAINER

Box 3, Folder 10

Box 3, Folder 11

Box 3, Folder 12

Box 3, Folder 13

Box 3, Folder 14

Box 3, Folder 15

Box 3, Folder 16

Business letters to Starling James, Undated	Box 3, Folder 17
Individual letters to Starling James, 1951	Box 3, Folder 18
Miscellaneous correspondence, 1951	Box 3, Folder 19
Itinerary and list of passengers, 1951	Box 3, Folder 20
Miscellaneous financial material, 4-1951-10-1951	Box 3, Folder 21

CALIFORNIA, CLEVELAND, BUFFALO, DETROIT TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 9-1951-11-1951	Box 3, Folder 22
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1952-3-1952	Box 3, Folder 23
Business letters to Starling James, 4-1952	Box 3, Folder 24
Business letters to Starling James, 5-1952-6-1952	Box 3, Folder 25
Business letters to Starling James, 7-1952	Box 3, Folder 26
Business letters to Starling James, Undated	Box 3, Folder 27
Letters from Starling James, 5-1952	Box 3, Folder 28
Itinerary and list of passengers, 1952	Box 3, Folder 29
Financial records, 5-1952-8-1952	Box 3, Folder 30

EUROPE TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 11-1951 -12-1952	Box 3, Folder 31
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1953 - 2-1953	Box 3, Folder 32
Business letters to Starling James, 3-1953 - 4-1953	Box 3, Folder 33
Business letters to Starling James, 5-1953 - 10-1953	Box 3, Folder 34

Individual letters to Starling James, 1-1953 - 9-1953	Box 3, Folder 35
Letters from Starling James, 2-1953 - 5-1953	Box 3, Folder 36
Letters from Starling James, Undated	Box 3, Folder 37
Itineraries, 1953	Box 3, Folder 38
Lists of passengers	Box 3, Folder 39
Financial records, 1952-1953	Box 3, Folder 40

COLORADO SPRINGS TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 8-1952 - 12-1952	Box 3, Folder 41
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1953 - 4-1953	Box 3, Folder 42
Business letters to Starling James, 6-1953 - 9-1953	Box 3, Folder 43
Business letters from Starling James, Undated	Box 3, Folder 44
Itinerary and list of passengers, 1953	Box 3, Folder 45
Financial records, 1953	Box 3, Folder 46

BOX 4: Tours

MEXICO TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 10-1953-11-1953	Box 4, Folder 1
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1954-4-1954	Box 4, Folder 2
Business letters to Starling James, 5-1954-7-1954	Box 4, Folder 3
Individual letters to Starling James, 4-1954	Box 4, Folder 4
Miscellaneous letters, Undated	Box 4, Folder 5

List of passengers, 1954	Box 4, Folder 6
Financial records, 1954	Box 4, Folder 7

CALIFORNIA and HAWAII TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 5-1955	Box 4, Folder 8
Business letters to Starling James, 6-1955	Box 4, Folder 9
Business letters to Starling James, Undated	Box 4, Folder 10
Letters from Starling James, 4-1955	Box 4, Folder 11
Itinerary, 1955	Box 4, Folder 12

CANADA and NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 8-1954-11-1954	Box 4, Folder 13
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1955-5-1955	Box 4, Folder 14
Business letters to Starling James, 2-1956	Box 4, Folder 15
Business letters to Starling James, 3-1956	Box 4, Folder 16
Business letters to Starling James, 5-1956-6-1956	Box 4, Folder 17
Itinerary and list of passengers, 1956	Box 4, Folder 18

CALIFORNIA and HAWAII TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 8-1956-9-1956	Box 4, Folder 19
Business letters to Starling James, 10-1956-11-1956	Box 4, Folder 20
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1957-3-1957	Box 4, Folder 21

Business letters to Starling James, 4-1957-7-1957	Box 4, Folder 22
Individual letters to Starling James, 9-1956-5-1957	Box 4, Folder 23
Individual letters to Starling James, 2-1957-7-1957	Box 4, Folder 24
Individual letters to Starling James, Undated	Box 4, Folder 25
Letters from Starling James, 8-1956-12-1956	Box 4, Folder 26
Letters from Starling James, 2-1957-8-1957	Box 4, Folder 27
Itinerary and list of passengers, 1957	Box 4, Folder 28
Financial records, 7-1957-8-1957	Box 4, Folder 29

NIAGARA FALLS TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 10-1957-12-1957	Box 4, Folder 30
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1958-8-1958	Box 4, Folder 31
Letters from Starling James, 8-1958	Box 4, Folder 32
Itinerary and list of passengers	Box 4, Folder 33

VIRGIN ISLANDS, HAITI, JAMAICA, CUBA TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 8-1957	Box 4, Folder 34
Business letters to Starling James, 9-1957-10-1957	Box 4, Folder 35
Business letters to Starling James, 11-1957-12-1957	Box 4, Folder 36
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1958-4-1958	Box 4, Folder 37
Business letters to Starling James, 5-1958	Box 4, Folder 38
Business letters to Starling James, 6-1958	Box 4, Folder 39

Business letters to Starling James, 7-1958	Box 4, Folder 40
Individual letters to Starling James, 11-1957	Box 4, Folder 41
Individual letters to Starling James, 2-1958-4-1958	Box 4, Folder 42
Individual letters to Starling James, 6-1958-7-1958	Box 4, Folder 43
Individual letters to Starling James, Undated	Box 4, Folder 44
Letters from Starling James, 5-1958-9-1958	Box 4, Folder 45
Letters from Starling James, Undated	Box 4, Folder 46
Itineraries	Box 4, Folder 47
Financial records	Box 4, Folder 48

BOX 5: Tours

MICHIGAN, MEXICO, NIAGARA FALLS TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 8-1958-9-1958	Box 5, Folder 1
Business letters to Starling James, 10-1958	Box 5, Folder 2
Business letters to Starling James, 11-1958-12-1958	Box 5, Folder 3
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1959-5-1959	Box 5, Folder 4
Business letters to Starling James, 6-1959-8-1959	Box 5, Folder 5
Individual letters to Starling James, 5-1958-11-1958	Box 5, Folder 6
Individual letters to Starling James, 2-1959-5-1959	Box 5, Folder 7
Individual letters to Starling James, Undated	Box 5, Folder 8
Letters from Starling James, 11-1957	Box 5, Folder 9
Letters from Starling James, 9-1959-12-1959	Box 5, Folder 10
Letters from Starling James, Undated	Box 5, Folder 11

Itinerary, 1959 Box 5, Folder 12

CALIFORNIA, HAWAII, BLACK HILLS TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 8-1959-12-1959

Business letters to Starling James, 1-1960

Business letters to Starling James, 2-1960-3-1960

Business letters to Starling James, 5-1960-8-1960

Business letters to Starling James, Undated

Individual letters to Starling James, 5-1958, 6-1960

Letters from Starling James, Undated

Itinerary and list of passengers, 1960

Financial records, 1960

CONTAINER

Box 5, Folder 13

Box 5, Folder 14

Box 5, Folder 15

Box 5, Folder 16

Box 5, Folder 17

Box 5, Folder 18

Box 5, Folder 19

Box 5, Folder 20

Box 5, Folder 21

NEW YORK, WASHINGTON D.C., DENVER, COLORADO SPRINGS, NIAGARA FALLS TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 3-1961-4-1961

Business letters to Starling James, 5-1961-7-1961

Business letters to Starling James, 8-1961-12-1961

Letters from Starling James, 3-1961-4-1961

Itineraries, list of passengers, 1961

Financial records, 1961

CONTAINER

Box 5, Folder 22

Box 5, Folder 23

Box 5, Folder 24

Box 5, Folder 25

Box 5, Folder 26

Box 5, Folder 27

WORLD'S FAIR and PACIFIC NORTHWEST TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 4-1961-7-1961	Box 5, Folder 28
Business letters to Starling James, 8-1961	Box 5, Folder 29
Business letters to Starling James, 9-1961-12-1961	Box 5, Folder 30
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1962-3-1962	Box 5, Folder 31
Business letters to Starling James, 4-1962-5-1962	Box 5, Folder 32
Business letters to Starling James, 6-1962	Box 5, Folder 33
Individual letters to Starling James, Undated	Box 5, Folder 34
Letters from Starling James, 3-1962-5-1962	Box 5, Folder 35
Itineraries, list of passengers, 1962	Box 5, Folder 36
Financial records, 1962	Box 5, Folder 37

CONTAINER

CARIBBEAN CRUISE and MIAMI TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 4-1961-12-1961	Box 5, Folder 38
Business letters to Starling James, 8-1962-11-1962	Box 5, Folder 39
Business letters to Starling James, 2-1963-4-1963	Box 5, Folder 40
Business letters to Starling James, 5-1963-8-1963	Box 5, Folder 41
Letters from Starling James, 8-1963	Box 5, Folder 42
Itineraries, list of passengers, 1963	Box 5, Folder 43
Financial records, 1963	Box 5, Folder 44

CONTAINER

BOX 6: Tours

EASTERN TOUR – Pittsburg, New York, Philadelphia, Washington D.C., Columbus

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 9-1962	Box 6, Folder 1
Business letters to Starling James, 10-1962-11-1962	Box 6, Folder 2
Business letters to Starling James, 2-1963-4-1963	Box 6, Folder 3
Business letters to Starling James, 5-1963-9-1963	Box 6, Folder 4
Letters from Starling James, 4-1963-5-1963	Box 6, Folder 5
Letters from Starling James, 7-1963-10-1963	Box 6, Folder 6
Itineraries, list of passengers, 1963	Box 6, Folder 7
Financial records, 1963	Box 6, Folder 8

CHICAGO TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 6-1963-9-1963	Box 6, Folder 9
Itineraries, list of passengers	Box 6, Folder 10

NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 2-1964-3-1964	Box 6, Folder 11
Business letters to Starling James, 5-1964-7-1964	Box 6, Folder 12
Business letters to Starling James, Undated	Box 6, Folder 13
Letters from Starling James, 2-1964	Box 6, Folder 14

Itineraries, list of passengers, 1964	Box 6, Folder 15
Financial records, 1964	Box 6, Folder 16

CALIFORNIA and HAWAII TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 8-1963-10-1963	Box 6, Folder 17
Business letters to Starling James, 11-1963-12-1963	Box 6, Folder 18
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1964-5-1964	Box 6, Folder 19
Business letters to Starling James, 6-1964	Box 6, Folder 20
Business letters to Starling James, 7-1964-8-1964	Box 6, Folder 21
Letters from Starling James, 12-1963, 7-1964	Box 6, Folder 22
Itineraries, list of passengers	Box 6, Folder 23
Financial records	Box 6, Folder 24

CONTAINER

EUROPE and HOLY LAND (ISREAL) TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 7-1963-12-1964	Box 6, Folder 25
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1965-3-1965	Box 6, Folder 26
Business letters to Starling James, 4-1965-5-1965	Box 6, Folder 27
Business letters to Starling James, 6-1965	Box 6, Folder 28
Business letters to Starling James, 7-1965-8-1965	Box 6, Folder 29
Individual letters to Starling James, 1965	Box 6, Folder 30
Letters from Starling James, 1965	Box 6, Folder 31
Itineraries, list of passengers, 1965	Box 6, Folder 32

CONTAINER

Financial records, 1965 Box 6, Folder 33

DETROIT, BUFFALO, BOSTON, NEW YORK, PITTSBURGH TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 8-1964-11-1964	Box 6, Folder 34
Business letters to Starling James, 2-1965-6-1965	Box 6, Folder 35
Individual letters to Starling James, 6-1965	Box 6, Folder 36
Itineraries, list of passengers, 1965	Box 6, Folder 37
Financial records, 1965	Box 6, Folder 38

FLORDIA and CARIBBEAN CRUISE TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 11-1965-12-1965	Box 6, Folder 39
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1966-3-1966	Box 6, Folder 40
Business letters to Starling James, 4-1966-6-1966	Box 6, Folder 41
Business letters to Starling James, 7-1966-8-1966	Box 6, Folder 42
Individual letters to Starling James, 4-1966-5-1966	Box 6, Folder 43
Letters from Starling James, 3-1966-9-1966	Box 6, Folder 44
Itineraries, list of passengers, 1966	Box 6, Folder 45
Financial records, 1966	Box 6, Folder 46

BOX 7: Tours

TULIP FESTIVAL TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 9-1965-1966	Box 7, Folder 1

Individual letters to Starling James, 4-1966 Box 7, Folder 2

NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES, WORLD'S FAIR, CANADA TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 9-1966	Box 7, Folder 3
Business letters to Starling James, 10-1966-11-1966	Box 7, Folder 4
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1967-3-1967	Box 7, Folder 5
Business letters to Starling James, 5-1967	Box 7, Folder 6
Business letters to Starling James, 6-1967-11-1967	Box 7, Folder 7
Individual letters to Starling James, 7-1967	Box 7, Folder 8
Letters from Starling James, 9-1966-9-1967	Box 7, Folder 9
Itineraries, list of passengers, 1967	Box 7, Folder 10
Financial records, 1967	Box 7, Folder 11

CONTAINER

PASSION PLAY, BLOOMINGTON, IL. TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 2-1967-4-1968	Box 7, Folder 12
Letters from Starling James, 1-1967-4-1967	Box 7, Folder 13
Itineraries, list of passengers, 1967-1968	Box 7, Folder 14

CONTAINER

MEXICO TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 1-1967-12-1967	Box 7, Folder 15
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1968-5-1968	Box 7, Folder 16
Business letters to Starling James, 7-1968-8-1968	Box 7, Folder 17

CONTAINER

Letters from Starling James, 6-1968-7-1968	Box 7, Folder 18
Miscellaneous correspondence, 7-1968	Box 7, Folder 19
Itineraries, list of passengers	Box 7, Folder 20
Financial records, 8-1968	Box 7, Folder 21
Miscellaneous material, 1968	Box 7, Folder 22

**PASSION PLAY-BLOOMINGTON, ILL., TULIP FESTIVAL-HOLLAND, MICH.,
CONEY ISLAND-CINCINNATI, OHIO, CALIFORNIA AND HAWAII TOUR**

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 5-1968-12-1968	Box 7, Folder 23
Business letters to Starling James, 2-1969-4-1969	Box 7, Folder 24
Business letters to Starling James, 5-1969-7-1969	Box 7, Folder 25
Business letters to Starling James, 7-1969-8-1969	Box 7, Folder 26
Miscellaneous correspondence to Starling James, Undated	Box 7, Folder 27
Letters from Starling James, 6-1969-8-1969	Box 7, Folder 28
Itineraries, list of passengers, 4-1969, 5-1969, 6- 1969, 7-1969	Box 7, Folder 29
Financial records, 4-1969, 5-1969, 6-1969, 7-1969	Box 7, Folder 30

**PASSION PLAY-BLOOMINGTON, ILL., TULIP FESTIVAL-HOLLAND, MICH.,
ORIENT-JAPAN AND EXPO '70 TOUR**

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 2-1970-5-1970	Box 7, Folder 31
Letters from Starling James, 1970	Box 7, Folder 32
Itineraries, list of passengers, 1970	Box 7, Folder 33

Financial records, 1970 Box 7, Folder 34

SCANDINAVIA AND RHINE CRUISE, NIAGARA FALLS TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 9-1970-1971	Box 7, Folder 35
Letters from Starling James, 1971	Box 7, Folder 36
Itineraries, list of passengers	Box 7, Folder 37
Financial records, 1971	Box 7, Folder 38
Miscellaneous material, 1971	Box 7, Folder 39

BOX 8: Tours; Cancelled Tours; Misc. Tour Material

PORTUGAL, SPAIN, MOROCCO, WASHINGTON, D.C., NEW YORK TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 9-1971-11-1971	Box 8, Folder 1
Business letters to Starling James, 2-1972-8-1972	Box 8, Folder 2
Letters from Starling James, 6-1972	Box 8, Folder 3
Miscellaneous correspondence, Undated	Box 8, Folder 4
Itineraries, list of passengers, 1972	Box 8, Folder 5
Financial records, 1972	Box 8, Folder 6

ATLANTA, WALT DISNEY WORLD, NEW ORLEANS, CARIBBEAN CRUISE TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 1-1972-2-1972	Box 8, Folder 7
Business letters to Starling James, 3-1973-6-1973	Box 8, Folder 8

Letters from Starling James, 3-1971-7-1973	Box 8, Folder 9
Itineraries, list of passengers, 1973	Box 8, Folder 10
Financial records, 1973	Box 8, Folder 11

NORTHWESTERN UNITED STATES AND CANADA TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 10-1973-3-1974	Box 8, Folder 12
Business letters to Starling James, 6-1974-10-1974	Box 8, Folder 13
Letters from Starling James, 8-1974	Box 8, Folder 14
Itineraries, list of passengers, 1974	Box 8, Folder 15
Financial records, 1974	Box 8, Folder 16

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 8-1975-11-1975	Box 8, Folder 17
Letters from Starling James, 7-1975	Box 8, Folder 18
Itineraries, list of passengers, 1975	Box 8, Folder 19
Financial records, 1975	Box 8, Folder 20

BLACK HILLS, S.D., MT. RUSHMORE, BADLANDS TOUR

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Business letters to Starling James, 8-1976-6-1977	Box 8, Folder 21
Itineraries, list of passengers, 1977	Box 8, Folder 22
Financial records, 1977	Box 8, Folder 23

CANCELLED TOURS

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 1956

CONTAINER

Box 8, Folder 24

NORTHWEST UNITED STATES TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 9-1970

Business letters to Starling James, 10-1970

Business letters to Starling James, 11-1970-1-1971

Business letters to Starling James, 2-1971-5-1971

Miscellaneous material, 1971

CONTAINER

Box 8, Folder 25

Box 8, Folder 26

Box 8, Folder 27

Box 8, Folder 28

Box 8, Folder 29

MEXICO TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 8-1972-10-1972

Letters from Starling James, 12-1972-5-1973

CONTAINER

Box 8, Folder 30

Box 8, Folder 31

ORIENT TOUR

CONTENTS

Business letters to Starling James, 4-1978

CONTAINER

Box 8, Folder 32

MISCELLANEOUS TOUR MATERIAL

CONTENTS

Business correspondence to Starling James

Individual correspondence to Starling James

CONTAINER

Box 8, Folder 33

Box 8, Folder 34

Song sheets Box 8, Folder 35
Adult reading material Box 8, Folder 36

BOX 9: Misc. Tour Materials; Games for Tours; Scrapbooks

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Reading material, <i>Encyclopedia of Colored People</i>	Box 9, Folder 1
Postcards	Box 9, Folder 2
Games for tours	Box 9, Folders 3-6
Scrapbooks on Starling James, FAC, and Indianapolis	Box 9, Folders 7-9

BOX 10: Scrapbooks on Starling James, FAC, and Indianapolis

Visual Materials	Visual Collection: Photographs, Folders 1-11
	Visual Collection: OVA Photographs, Folders 1-5
	Visual Collection: OVC Photographs, Folder 1