

Collection #
M1539

**INDIANAPOLIS PUBLIC RELATIONS SOCIETY
RECORDS, 1949-2024**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 manuscript box, 1 half size manuscript box
COLLECTION DATES:	1949-2024
PROVENANCE:	Gift of Indianapolis Public Relations Society c/o Denise Herd, Indianapolis, IN
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NOTES:	

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Indianapolis Public Relations Society was organized by a committee of six members- Roscoe Clark, Willis Conner, William Evans, Roger Fleming, Fred Maston, and Mark Ogden- on February 17, 1949. The purpose was to plan for an organization where a group of no more than thirty male public relations professionals could dine together and discuss problems and successes in a confidential environment. The committee wished to keep the group small and invite/sponsored membership only so that there would be consistent attendance and like-minded individuals in attendance. Initial dues were \$5.00 and \$4.50 for a membership fee that would cover luncheons and tips for the first three months of meetings. Members were expected to be working in the field of public relations, to have a reputation for ethical conduct and integrity, and could not miss more than half the meetings, otherwise they would be dropped from membership. The society's lunch meetings center on a speaker from a local business or organization who would present on relevant topics of the day, which could be anything from a municipal court judge to communications at Eli Lilly. The Society welcomed their first female member, Charlene Hillman of Caldwell-VanRiper, in 1977. In later years, the society also changed the by-laws to expand membership from thirty to forty members.

In 2024, the Society celebrated their 75th Anniversary of fostering camaraderie and friendship among Indianapolis' public relations professionals.

Sources:

Materials in the collection

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains meeting announcements, minutes, rosters, attendance lists, correspondence, membership directories and the constitution and by-laws for the Indianapolis Public Relations Society. The meeting announcements, minutes, attendance lists, and correspondence dates from 1950-1983. Later years in the organization are accounted for by membership directories and some speakers lists from 2001-2012.

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CONTAINER

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