



The Urbana Free Library

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Alice McCrystal Book Club
Records, 1962-2004

Collection 360

Champaign County Historical Archives

Compiled by: Kayla Mesker, February 2023

Creator/Corporate Name: Alice McCrystal Book Club

Inclusive Dates: 1962-2004

Physical Description: 1 box, (.25 linear ft.)

Provenance:

The Alice McCrystal Book Club collection was donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives in November 2020.

Access:

These records are accessible to the public within applicable copyright restrictions and limited to use at the Champaign County Historical Archives of The Urbana Free Library.

Historical Note:

The Alice McCrystal Circulation Book Club was started in 1962 by Alice McCrystal and Cappie Porter. The club had a committee of two, a chairwoman and a co-chairwoman, serving each year. In each leadership cycle, the co-chairwoman became the chairwoman and chose a co-chairwoman to serve with her. The Book Club met annually with a group of 10-17 women.

The club's purpose was to allow members to read the latest titles by circulating new books that were challenging to obtain at the library and recommending undiscovered titles to club members. The club members would decide upon a book list equal to the number of members then each member would start with a different book and pass it to the next member on a specified day.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains the lists of books read from 1962-2004. Also included are two notebooks of meeting minutes. The first notebook contains minutes from 1962-1988., and the second notebook contains 1990-2004.

Subject Terms:

Book clubs (Discussion groups)
Women-Societies and clubs

Name Terms:

Ackermann, Margaret
Beak, Sandy
Berger, Bertha
Bryan, Gertrude
Cavanaugh, Beth
Costello, Lois



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Creswell, Jean
Douglas, Jane
Edwards, Marion
Eilbracht, Euline
Ensrud, Nat
Gartner, Ruth
Hartley, Bobbie
Kabel, Betty
Keller, Ines
Knight, Betty Ann
Law, Genevieve
May, Sharon
McCrystal, Alice
Miley, Liz
Oliver, Betty Jo
Parkinson, Margaret
Porter, Cappie
Ross, Freddie
Ruhn, Josie
Thies, Marilyn
Twardock, Mary

Container List

Box 1

Folder 1: Annual Book Lists, 1962-2004
Folder 2: Notebook of meeting minutes, 1962-1988
Folder 3: Notebook of meeting minutes, 1990-2004