

ALBANY INSTITUTE
OF HISTORY & ART

A Guide to the Records of
The Women's Seal and Stamp Club of Albany
MG- 212

Collection Summary

Collection Title: Records of The Women's Seal and Stamp Club of Albany

Call Number: MG 212

Creator:

Inclusive Dates: May 1936-1997

Bulk Dates: May 1936-1997

Abstract: The Helping Hand Seal and Stamp Club, later the Women's Stamp and Seal Club, was formed in 1936 by two friends, Mrs. George J. Skinner and Mrs. William Weigman. This collection includes minute books, photographs, newspaper clippings, programs, copies of stamps, constitution, and by-laws, correspondences, member information, meeting announcements, AIHA pamphlets, poems by members, Albany Academy history, award ribbons, a Loving Cup inscribed "Women's Seal and Stamp Club of Albany," NY Grand Award arch 26, 1946, three ink stamps, one "Elm Tree" die, painting of the "Elm Tree"

Quantity: 2 boxes

Administrative Information

Custodial History: Gift of Gilbert Conrad, Jr.

Preferred Citation: The Women's Stamp and Seal Club of Albany

Acquisition Information:

Accession #: Unknown

Accession Date: December 7, 2010

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access: None

Restrictions on Use: Permission to publish material must be obtained in writing prior to publication from the Chief Librarian & Archivist, Albany Institute of History & Art, 125 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12210.

Index Term

Persons:

Mrs. George J. Skinner Mrs. William Weigman

Organizations:

Albany Institute of History and Art
Albany Stamp Clubs

Places:

Albany, New York

Subjects

History and documentation of Women's Seal and Stamp Club
Pictures and Histories of stamps
Philately

Document Types:

Scrap books, stamp books, photographs, pamphlets, programs, correspondence letters, minutes (histories), newspaper articles, autograph books, handwritten history.

Titles

Biography/History of

The Helping Hand Seal and Stamp Club, later the Women's Stamp and Seal Club, was formed in 1936 by two friends, Mrs. George J. Skinner and Mrs. William Weigman, who had an interest in stamp collecting and philately, the study of stamps. At the time, membership to most organized stamp clubs was restricted to men only. In 2004, the Fort Orange Stamp Club (founded in 1926) incorporated the women's club, though early on, both clubs met at the Albany Institute of History and Art for many years.

To celebrate the club's tenth anniversary, the club founders created a collage of The Old Elm Tree; selected by the members as its new emblem. Elm Tree Corner, an iconic historical landmark located on the northwest corner of State and Pearl Streets, is based on the story that Philip Livingston, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, built his house and planted an elm tree there in 1735.

In addition to scrapbooks and journals, each year the women of the Seal and Stamp club would put together a small booklet containing information about the club, including the

names of the current club officers, place and date of meetings, and purpose of the meeting. Some of the booklets also included the names and addresses of current members and the names of past club presidents. This booklet is stamped with the Women's Seal and Stamp Club emblem, the Old Elm Tree Corner.

Scope and Contents of the Records/Papers/Collection

The majority of these materials contain scrapbooks, a variety of correspondences, photographs, newspaper clippings, Xeroxed copies of stamps, histories (minutes, member lists, programs, histories of the club's Elm Tree emblem).

Organization of the Records/Papers/Collection

The records and documents are divided into scrapbooks, binders, and files. They include minutes, history, news clippings, correspondence, photographs and constitution and by-laws.

Related Material

None

Separated Materials

None

Other Finding Aids

None

Detailed Description of the Records/Papers/Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
1	1	Scrapbook: pamphlets and newspaper clippings, 1955-56 pertaining to the club and stamp collecting
	2	Binder containing minutes 6/53- 5/66. Attendance 1965-66
	3	Universal stamp album containing a history 1936-1968 and founding history, minutes 1944- 67, constitution and by-laws, 1942.
	4	Black Binder, 1936-45:, meeting announcements, news clippings and photos, Albany Academy history
	5	Black Binder, (untitled): news clippings and photos, meeting announcements 1946-61, news article about the stamp exhibit at AIHA, no date.

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
1(con't)	6	Gray Binder: minutes and correspondence 1960-65, AIHA Exhibit pamphlet 6/3/62, AIHA 171 st annual report 1791-1962
2	1	Poems by members, historical notes, stamps, 1936-1946 Copies of poems and stamps, 1939-1946
	2	Anniversary book, Elm Tree sketch and photo, historian notes (minutes), 1973-74, 1991-1992.
	3	Records of organization and correspondence, 1962-2010
	4	Programs, 1941-2004 (assorted years), autograph album
	5	Assorted programs, 1952-95, 20 th anniversary booklet
	6	Programs, photos and cards, 1969-1980.