

Attic Club
M/A 2000.99.01-03
Finding aid prepared by Ian Stade

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

Repository	James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library
Creator	Attic Club. (Minneapolis, Minn.)
Title	Attic Club Collection
Date [bulk]	Bulk, 1913-1923
Date [inclusive]	1909-1944
Extent	1.67 Linear feet
Language	English

History

Organized in 1909 by a group of 13 artists with Theodore Keene (then director of the Minneapolis School of Art) leading the club. The club took its name from its quarters on the top floor of Times building at 114 S. 4th Street (the club later moved to 614 W. Lake St. and other locations). By 1926 there were about 52 members. The club held exhibitions and social parties including costume balls and plays. The club symbol is a huge spider suggestive of an attic.

Among those identified with the mid years of the club are: Albinson, Dewey; Baker, Forbes C.; Bakke, Magnus; Barnarth, Louis; Betlach, Jess W.; Bohnen, Carl; Burnell, Saul; Burton, Samuel Chatwood; Calhoun, Frederick D.; Cassidy, Louise; Chapman, George P.; Clark, Vera; Conaughy, Clarence; Crawford, Isabel; Crawford, Isabella; Dawes, Edwin M.; DeVoe, Margaret; Farnsworth, Edith; Favour, Frank; Foster, Ben; Foster, Fred E.; Fournier, Alexia; Goetsch, Gustav; Grayson, Olive; Hanson, Arthur; Hart, Todd A.; Holzschuh, R. P.; Hudson, Miss Jerry; Kaiser, August; Kane, Kathleen; Keane, Theodore J.; Kelly, Louise; Kelly, Tom; King, E. S.; Knowlton., May F.; Kulberg, Ernest; Larsen, Andreas; Larson, C.; Lawford, Charles H.; Little, Philip; Lovell, Lulu Verharen; McCoy, Arthur; Mero, Lee V.; Merrill, Frank; Methven, Don; Nelson, Homer; Norstad, M.; Nothaft, Fred; Rawson, Carl; Reed, Edith; Rubins, Harry W.; Shirley, Lloyd W.; Skinner, Frank; Slack, Emma; Sooy, Louise, Stanton, E.; Taube, Walter; Tice, David; Vjlacill, Vaclar; Wheeler, William; Wickstrom, Larry; Young, Rowena.

Locations of club as noted in the scrapbook include: 1918 clipping dated March 22 Lake Street Advocate: Attic Club located at Lake Street and Lyndale Ave. Appears to have been at the location of 618 W. Lake Street for about 3 years and moved because of growing membership. In 1919 it is noted that a new exhibit was going to open in the new club room in the Handicraft Building at 10th Street (article/notice dated 10/13/1919). In 1920, they were forced in to a new location because of high rent, moved to the basement of large building at 12th Street and 2nd Ave South. Final permanent quarters were in the Bradstreet Art Gallery's – in rear of club room.

Barbara DeCosse's parents were active with the club from early years to the 1940s. Barbara remembers the costume parties held by the club as being quite the events. Her father, Don Methven was a commercial artist who did illustrations, posters, commercial greeting cards, wood cuts, figures, layout, cartoons. His office/studio was located at 520 Washington Ave N., Minneapolis. Olga Johns, last secretary of the Attic Club gave this book to Lee Pierotti Methven, who gave the book to Barbara M.DeCosse asking her to donate it to the Minneapolis Collection.

Description of the Collection

Collection includes exhibition announcements and programs, correspondence (1917-1933), constitution and amendments, history of the organization, programs of annual costume balls, secretary's reports

(1913-1923), yearbooks (1912, 1924-1925), scrapbook covering 1911-1928, a pennant, fedora and a painting smock. Also included are photographs in the SCMC photo collection, scattered issues of *Atticker* (shelved with the SCMC periodicals,) and a metal sign with the symbol of a spider and a web with the words "Attic Club" in the center (filed with the SCMC MPLS Mementos Artifacts).

Types of materials: minutes to meetings, correspondence, invitations, exhibit lists, photos, scrapbooks, clippings, programs materials, heavy cotton "painting smock," velvet "painters fedora," blue felt pennant for Attic Club.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library

Related Materials

Items Separated

Photos in SCMC Photo Collection. Periodical *Atticker* (September 1929- July 1930, March 1944) filed with SCMC periodicals. (The periodical *Skylight* is filed with the M/A collection see folder 11)

Metal sign shelved SCMC MPLS Mementos Artifacts.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Attic Club. (Minneapolis, Minn.). History.

Subject(s)

- Clubs -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis.

Collection Inventory

	Box	Folder
Container List	1	1
Announcements: Balls, Revels 1925-1944	1	2
Announcements: Balls, Revels 1925-1944	1	3
Clippings 1925-1944	1	4
Constitution, amendments, minutes of business meetings 1913-1923	1	5
Correspondence 1917-1933	1	6
Costume ball: play: An Attic Club Night in Baghdad 1917-1933	1	7
Exhibitions, annual announcements 1916-1931	1	8
Evening Sketch Groups 1916-1931	1	9
History: Attic Club 1916-1931	1	10
Journal: The Skylight 1920-1921	1	11
Membership, receipts, etc. 1920-1921	1	12

Yearbooks 1912, 1924-1925	1	13
	Box	Box-folder
Minutes of meetings 1913-1923	1	14
		Box-folder
Scrapbook containing newspaper clippings, photographs, programs 1911-1928		2
		Box
Heavy cotton "painting smock," velvet "painters fedora," blue felt pennant for Attic Club		3