

ALBANY INSTITUTE
OF HISTORY & ART

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**A Guide to the
Junior Friday Morning Club Papers**

Collection Summary

Collection Title: Papers

Call Number: MG 168

Creator: The Junior Friday Morning Club

Inclusive Dates: 1897 - 2005

Bulk Dates: 1950s - 2002

Abstract: Minute books, photographs, programs, constitution and by-laws, correspondences, papers written and presented to the Junior Friday Morning Club, a VHS tape of the Friday Morning Club "100 Years," and a cassette tape

Quantity: 5 Boxes

Administrative Information

Custodial History:

Preferred Citation: Collection Title, Call Number. Albany Institute of History & Art Library, New York.

Acquisition Information:

Accession #:

Accession Date:

Processing Information:

Processed by Cindy Clynes; completed June 2005.

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

Allard, Felcia
Barnes, Judith A.
Bartlett, Molly
Barton, Thomas Robert
Becker, Patty
Becker, Helen
Bender, Phoebe
Cogswell, Ledyard (Mrs.)
Couch, Joan
Corning, Edwin (Mrs.)
Crummy, Betty
D'Agostino, Harry (Mrs.)
Easton, Patty
Ferguson, Joan
Gallup, Peggy
Goodwin, Dinny
Hoffman, Anna
Huyck, Edmund (Mrs.)
Lansing, Guy
Lawton, Nancy
Lewis, Randi
Liddle, Nancy
Mahar, Christie H.
McEwan, Charles (Ms.)
Monteath, Harriet
Oliver, Bessie
Peltz (Goodwin), Polly
Perry, John
Pruyn, Hybertie
Ray, Sandra
Reed, Lilly
Rowell, Jean
Roosevelt, Franklin (Mrs.)
Roosevelt, Theodore (Mrs.)
Schultze, Caroline Peltz
Sheerin, Edith
Townsend, Catherine
Trask, Spencer
Trask, Katrina

Ward, Nina
Warren, Iry
Wasson, Mary
Williams, Hough Martha

Organizations

Book Club – Albany (N.Y.)
Friday Morning Club – Albany (N.Y.)
Junior Friday Morning Club – Albany (N.Y.)

Subjects

1950s
Castleton – New York (State)
General Stephen Van Rensselaer – New York (State)
Marketing
The Marshall Plan
Women Clubs – Albany (N.Y.)
Women Suffrage Movement – Albany (N.Y.)

Places

Albany – (N.Y.)

Document Types

VHS tape, cassette tape, pamphlets, programs, photographs,
correspondence letters, minute books, newspaper articles.

Titles

“Living Today.” *Sunday Times Union*. May 3 1987.

History of

On January 15, 1887 Mrs. Martha Hough Williams of State Street invited a group of women to her home, where she proposed that they become a club. This “new club” would meet weekly throughout the winter in a cordial location to share and discuss information on a variety of books that they had read and studied. Forming this type of club was a bold new idea during this time period, as women’s clubs were unheard of in those days. When this club first began, the United States was still in its recovery stages from the American Civil War. It was extremely uncommon for women clubs and activities to exist outside the home, as well as the opportunity for women to receive a college education.

At first, the club was called Mrs. Williams’ Morning Club and it wasn’t until later that it was renamed to the Friday Morning Club. Mrs. Williams became the first president and remained in office for twenty-five years. The other officers included Mrs. John Perry (Leader) and Miss Harriet Monteath (Secretary). The main object of Mrs. Williams’ Morning Club was to stimulate interest in general topics among its members.

As acknowledged in the Club's Constitution and By-Laws, membership will be divided into three (3) separate classes. The first membership class includes its regular members. This membership is limited to twenty and "shall be residents of the City of Albany or the vicinity." The second type of membership are guest members and is further subdivided into permanent guest members and annual guest members. Lastly, there are the honorary members. To become a honorary members, one must be a regular members first, with the "possible exception of the wife of the Governor of New York State."

In 1897, Miss Lydia (Lilly) Rathbone Reed and a few others came to the conclusion that she and many of her friends would never be asked to join Mrs. Williams' Morning Club. As a result, Lilly met with Bessie Oliver and Miss Hybertie Pruyn to form another Friday Morning Club. On March 15, 1897 the first meeting of the Friday Morning Club was held at Miss Reed's. Members present included: Miss M.B. Fenimore Cooper, Miss Nina Ward, Miss Margaret Freeman, Miss Fiero, Miss Elizabeth Oliver, Miss Jean Rowell, Miss Hybertie L. Pruyn, Mrs. H.S. Peckham, Miss Margaret Pruyn, Miss Marion Sard, Miss Mary Wasson, and Mrs. Guy Lansing. These "original" ladies were the first of a long line of talented and distinguished members during the Club's first one hundred years.

The Friday Morning Club soon branched off into the Junior Friday Morning Club. Many members of the Junior Friday Morning Club were the daughters or other relatives of members of Mrs. Williams' Morning Club and/or the Friday Morning Club. Members of the Junior Friday Morning Club wanted change and sought to do things differently. The main distinction between these two club is that the Juniors wanted to "stimulate interest in general topics by presenting well-prepared papers to the members, while the original club reads from books directly."

Over the years, members decided on having a general theme and would present their paper(s) on a variety of topics at the meetings: In 1900 the club investigated the Elizabethan Age, with papers on History, Court Life, Universities, Church, Architecture, Poetry and Domestic Life. In 1901, there was no general theme, but some topics covered were: The Chinese Question, Philippine Question, the Domestic Problem, Household Economics and Sport (its influence on men and women). In 1902 some of the topics covered include: the South African Question, the Excise Question, Novels of the Year, Women's Dress, Practical Education of Women (Does the Education of the 19th Century Unfit Women for Household Duties?) In 1903, for the first time there was a debate on the topic "Is a lie ever justifiable?" This debate was followed by papers on subjects such as: Nihilists in Russia (Should we be Nihilists or are we Russians?); The Social Life of Today (What Does it Stand For?). At the last meeting held in 1903 another debate was produced from the topic, "If a women cannot marry for love, will she best fulfill her destiny by remaining single or by marrying a man she respects and esteems?"

In 1904 the theme was Italian Renaissance with subjects on Dante, the Papacy, Savonarola, the Medici, Leonardi DaVinci, Corregio, Machiavelli, Raphael and Michelangelo, etc. The topic for 1905 was Renaissance in France and Germany. From this theme two debates aroused on the questions "Are the civil and religious laws which interfere with the affection between men and women a hindrance to the highest civilization?" and "Does education increase happiness?" The main topic for the year 1908 was the Significance of Early Greeks to Moderns. The year 1909 had an assortment

of different topic such as Social Science, Wealth and Capital, Labor Conditions, Women in Industry, and Congestion in Tenement House Life. A debate was also held this year on “Are there any advantages in a leisure class?” It is very interesting to note that the topics of debate as well as the topics picked for discussion usually were usually notorious happenings in the news, at the present time, and still today.

This Club is still very active and is going strong. It has celebrated its centennial anniversary. Since the Spanish American War, members of the club have been witnesses to numerous historical events that have affected not only our nation, but the city of Albany as well. These events ranges from the outbreak of the Spanish - American War, the 1920s and the Suffrage Movement, both World Wars, the 1950s, etc.

Scope and Contents of the Papers

The majority of these materials contains minute books, a variety of correspondences, photographs, and papers written and presented to the Junior Friday Morning Club.

This collection also includes a VHS Tape and a tape cassette

Organization of the Papers

This collection contains one (1) series illustrating the Junior Friday Morning Club.

The Junior Friday Morning Club Papers are further subdivided into eight (8) subseries which include papers written and presented to the Junior Friday Morning Club, records of minutes kept, correspondences, Constitution and By-Laws, information on the club’s history, a list of membership, photographs, and programs.

Related Material

None

Separated Materials

At this time we do not have any other materials regarding the Friday Morning Club. However, we do contain some materials that parallels to some of the topics covered in the papers written/presented to the Friday Morning Club:

Ephemera Collection: Castleton-on-the-Hudson – (N.Y.)

Other Finding Aids

None

Detailed Description of the Papers

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

Series # 1 The Junior Friday Morning Club

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
1	1	Paper on "The Marshall Plan," March 12 1948.
1	1	Paper by Ms. Charles McEwan on her experiences in Austria-Hungary when her father was Ambassador, 1959.
1	1	Paper written by Helen P. Becker titled "A Small History of Castleton," 1959.
1	2	Paper written by Polly Peltz (Goodwin) titled "Summer Places," 1975.
1	2	Untitled paper (hand written), 1988.
1	2	Paper given by Dinny Goodwin titled "Games People Play," April 21 1989.
1	2	Paper titled "General Stephen Van Rensselaer and his Forebears," n.d.
1	2	Paper titled "A Virginia Diary: 1842-1917," Winter 1986.
1	2	Paper given by Caroline Peltz Schultze titled "The Twenties in Albany," April 8 1988.
1	3	Presentation given to The Junior Friday Morning Club by Judith A. Barnes titled <i>Looking Back, Looking Forward: the Portrayal of Men and Women in Ads During the 1950s and the 1990s</i> , February 25 1994.
1	3	Junior Friday Morning Club Paper, 1995.
1	3	Junior Friday Morning Club Paper titled "Westward Ho!," February 2000.
1	3	Junior Friday Morning Club Paper titled "Our Turkish Odyssey," 1994.
1	3	Presentation given to The Junior Friday Morning Club by Judith Barnes titled <i>Marketing Mania</i> , April 12 1996.
1	3	Presentation given to The Junior Friday Morning Club by Christie H. Mahar titled <i>Meet Mrs. Fritz</i> , March 2002.
1	3	Paper delivered to The Junior Friday Morning Club by Nancy Lawton titled <i>American Drawings after 1900</i> , April 5 2002.
1	4	handwritten papers by Patty Easton, n.d.
1	4	handwritten papers by Patty Easton, n.d.
1	4	handwritten papers by Patty Easton, n.d.
1	5	Paper titled "Yaddoo and Its Founders: Yesterday and Today" by Catherine Townsend
1	6	Paper from the Friday Morning Club, 1906.
1	6	Pamphlet of "The New York State Executive Mansion, n.d
1	6	Sympathy "paper" from the Junior Friday Morning Club for Mrs. Ledyard Cogswell, October 1984.
1	6	List of members and papers, 1950 (8 copies)

Subseries # 1 Business Meetings

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
2	1	The Junior Friday Morning Club's Treasurer's Report, Fall 1993.
2	1	Letter to members of the Junior Friday Morning Club from Nancy Liddle, September 1994.
2	1	Minutes of the Spring Meeting of the Junior Friday Morning Club, May 1994.
2	1	Minutes of the Fall Meeting of the Junior Friday Morning Club, October 1994.
2	1	Letter to the regular and honorary members of the Junior Friday Morning Club, June 2002.
2	1	Minutes of the Spring Business Meeting of the Junior Friday Morning Club, June 2002.

Subseries # 2 Correspondence

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
2	2	Letter to Mrs. Couch from Phoebe Bender, May 15 1988.
2	2	Letter to Mrs. Sheerin from Mrs. Charles M. Liddle III, May 1998.
2	2	Letter to Mrs. Sheerin from Peggy Gallup, May 1998.
2	2	Letter to All Members of the Junior Friday Morning Club from Edith Sheerin, November 1977 (3 copies).
2	2	Thank You Letter from Sandra Ray to Joan D. Couch, July 3 1996.
2	2	Thank You Letter from Anna Hoffman to Joan Couch.
2	2	Letter from Molly Bartlett to Mrs. Harry D'Agostino
2	2	Resignation letter from the Junior Friday Morning Club from Jane L. Plaff to Nancy, September 18 1994.
2	2	Thank You Letter from Sandra Ray to Mrs. Harry D'Agostino, June 26 1995
2	2	Letter to Mrs. D'Agostino from Anne Reynolds, June 22 1995.
2	2	Letter from Felcia P. Allard, Special Assistant to the First Lady (Governor) to Ms. Jan D'Agostino, November 3 1995.
2	2	Letter to Jan D'Agostino from Jessie Cogswell, 1996.
2	2	Letter to Friday Morning Club Regular Members from Mrs. Edward F. Mahar, n.d.
2	2	Letters to Friday Morning Club members from Randi J. Lewis, 1996.

Subseries # 3 Constitution and By Laws

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
2	3	Junior Friday Morning Club Constitution and By-Laws, adopted January 25 1948 (3 copies).
2	3	Junior Friday Morning Club Constitution and By Laws, October 1988.

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|---|---|--|
| 2 | 3 | Proposed Constitution and By- Laws Changes, 1994-1995. |
| 2 | 3 | Duties of the President, n.d (3 copies). |

Subseries # 4 History

- | Box # | Folder # | Item #. Title / Description |
|-------|----------|---|
| 2 | 4 | Pamphlet titled <i>The Friday Morning Club</i> . |
| 2 | 4 | Junior Friday Moring Club “facts and figures,” April 11 1958 (2 Copies). |
| 2 | 4 | A paper titled “The Junior Friday Morning Club – A History,” 1985 (3 Copies). |
| 2 | 4 | Paper on the history of the Junior Friday Morning Club, n.d (2 Copies) |
| 2 | 4 | An Invitation to celebrate the One Hundredth Birthday Meeting and Luncheon, May 1987. |
| 2 | 4 | “Living Today,” <i>Sunday Times Union</i> , May 3 1987 (2 copies). |

Subseries # 5 Membership

- | Box # | Folder # | Item #. Title / Description |
|-------|----------|---|
| 2 | 5 | Proposed letters of invitation to Guest Members of the Junior Friday Morning Club, n.d. |
| 2 | 5 | Sample letters of invitation to Guest Members of the Junior Friday Morning Club, n.d. |
| 2 | 5 | list of members and guest of the Friday Morning Club, 1887-1987. |
| 2 | 5 | list of members with phone number and address of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1992. |
| 2 | 5 | Membership List of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1993 (2 Copies). |
| 2 | 5 | Membership List with date of first affiliation of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1994 (3 Copies). |
| 2 | 5 | Membership List with date of first affiliation of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1995 (3 Copies). |
| 2 | 5 | Membership Status as of May 26 1995 of the Junior Friday Morning Club. |
| 2 | 5 | Membership List with date of first affiliation of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1996 (3 Copies). |
| 2 | 5 | A Ballot for invitation to Guest Membership for 1997. |
| 2 | 5 | Revised Membership List of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1997 (5 copies). |
| 2 | 5 | Membership List of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1998 (5 copies). |
| 2 | 5 | Membership List of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1998-1999. |
| 2 | 5 | Program for the 2001 Season Membership (2 Copies). |
| 2 | 5 | Attendance of the members of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 2002. |

Subseries # 6 Photographs

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
2	6	Extra Photographs of the Centennial (9 photographs), n.d.
2	6	Photograph of Patty Becker (President), 1964.
2	6	Photograph of member at the home of Mrs. Reynolds, 1963.
2	6	Photograph of the members of the Junior Friday Morning Club, September 29 1872.
2	6	Photograph of members visiting the Governor's Mansion, Spring 1996
2	6	Photograph of members of the Friday Morning Club.

Subseries # 7 Programs

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
2	7	Programs of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1944 – 1978.
2	7	Program of the Junior Friday Morning Club , 1980 (2 Copies).
2	7	Program of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1982
2	7	Program of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1984
2	7	Program of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1985
2	7	Program of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1986 (3 Copies).
2	7	Program of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1987 (2 Copies).
2	7	Program of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1988 (2 Copies).
2	7	Program of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1989 (3 Copies).
2	7	Program of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1990
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2	7	Program of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1993 (2 Copies).
2	7	Program of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1994 (5 Copies).
2	7	Program of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1995 (5 Copies).
2	7	Program of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1996 (5 Copies).
2	7	Program of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1997 (5 Copies).
2	7	Program of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1998 (3 Copies).
2	7	Programs of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1944 – 1973.
2	7	Programs of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1899 – 1943.

Subseries # 8 Minute Books

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
3		VHS Tape titled <i>Friday Morning Club: 100 Years</i> , Schuyler Meadows, Albany, January 1997.
3		Cassette Tape of the Friday Morning Club titled "Betty Crummey and Iry Warren 'Knights and Their Days,'" April 1987.
3		Minutes of June 28 ,1946 through May 19,1961.
3		Minutes of October 20, 1961 through Fall Business Meeting of 1979.

- 3 The Junior Friday Morning Club list of total membership, annual membership, inactive membership, list of programs, list of regular membership, 1950 – 1960s.
- 3 record of Business Meetings for the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1919-1946.
- 3 Minutes of the Junior Friday Morning Club, 1897 – 1951.
- 3 Handwritten Minutes book, May'80-May'96

Subseries # 9

Box #	Folder #	Titles of Papers , Presenters, and Dates
4	1	Schuyler Flats History presenter unknown
	2	The Antarctic Explorers and the Nature of Heroism - Townsend
	3	The Lives of Women in the 17 th and 18 th Centuries-O'Connor
	4	The Junior Friday Morning Club, a History-Stedman, 1985
	5	The Twenties in Albany-Schultze, 1988
	6	Van Gogh-deBeer, 1996
	7	The Story of the Fox People-Mahar, 1997
	8	Chinese Overseas-Swire, 1998
	9	China-Everett, 1998
	10	The Channel Mystery-Puig, 1998
	11	The Art of Alice Morgan Wright-1999
	12	Stanford White-Puig, 2000
	13	Yaddo and Its Founders Yesterday and Today-Townsend. 2000
	14	Sarah Bush Lincoln, Beloved Ste[mother of a Beloved President-Allen, 2000
	15	The Wicked Stepmother and Other Evil Female Archetypes-2000
	16	Westward Ho! For Eastern Wealth-Everett, 2000
	17	Sailing to the East for Adventure and Treasure-deBeer, 2000
	18	The Harlem Renaissance-Bender, 2001
	19	As Others See Us-Lord, 2001
	20	Do You See What I See-Scherin, 2001

	21		The Stone Carvers-Couch, 2001
	22		The Sculptor Laurent Thompson- 2001
	23		Altar Guild of St. Peter's Church-Buse, 2001
	24		Customs and Costumes of the Seventeenth Century-Swire, 2001
	25		Poetry and Crises-Part One
			When Words Are Not Enough-Part Two-Treadwell and Jones, 2002
	26		American Drawings After 1900-Lawton, 2002
	27		American Drawings Before 1900-Allen, 2002
	28		The Twenties in Albany-Schultze, 4-8-88
			Schuyler Flatts History-unknown presenter and date
			The Art of Alice Morgan Wright-Allen. 1-22-99
			Sailing to the East for Adventure and Treasure-deBeer, 1-21-2000
	29		The Sculptor Laurent Thompson-Allen, Allen, 3-9-01
			William H. Miner: Head in Industry, Heart in Farming-Burke, 4-19-02
			Robert Clarence Pruyn-Morgan, 02
	30		Water For Manhattan-Dickerman, 4-4-03
			Marietta Tree-Couch, 2003
			All is Magic-Barnes, 4-25-03
			Water Shortages-D'Agostino, 4-4-03
			Greed-Buse, 3-03
	31		The Big Dig-Carlson and Jones, 1-9-04
			The Outer Banks-Olton, 2-4-04
			Brian Gender-Guslander, 1-23-04
			Fathers and Daughters-Bettini, 1-04
			The Journey of Lewis and Clark-Holub and Treadwell, 4-2-04
			History of the Troy Music Hall-Lord, 3-5-04
	32		Ancient Egypt, Ways and Worship-Morgan, 1-05
			Epiphanies of a Reformed Serial Dieter-Allen, 2-05
			Who Got the Better Bargain-Overeynder, 2-18-05
			A William Winstanley Who Done It-Burke, 3-18-05
			Interesting People No One Has Heard Of-unknown presenter, 3-18-05
			Art and Architecture-Tradition and Innovation-deBeer and Dickerman, 4-1-05
			Botany, Botanists and Botanical Artists in New York-Lenden, 4-15-05
	33		Think Globally, Educate Locally-Allen, 1-19-07

Box #	Folder #		
5	1		Searching for Roots (Family Heritage)-Lord and Lord, 18-10
			The Dreyfus Affair-De Bonis, 1-22-10
			Tourette's Syndrome-Couch, 1-22-10
			Gertrude Stein-Swire, 2-5-10
			Your Affectionate Aunt, Mary Cassatt-Ryan, 2-5-10
			On Trees-O'Connor, 2-19-10
			The Healing Property on Plants-Terenzio, 2-19-10
			Stormy Weather-de Beer, 3-5-10
			Deforestation and Climate Change-Ferguson, 3-5-10
			The Van Rensselaer Land Claim of 1630- Townsend, 3-19-10
			Exhibition of a Private Jade Collection-Campbell, 3-19-10
			Head Trip (Carl Jung)- Barnes, 4-16-10
			Being and Becoming- DiLorenzo, 4-16-10
			There is Gold in Them Thar Hills (Garbage Management)- Overeynder, 4-25-10
			Garbage and Art- Ro Lin Chu, 4-25-10