

Know North Carolina Club Collection

Repository:	Rockingham Co. Historical Collections Gerald B. James Library Rockingham Community College P. O. Box 38 Wentworth, NC 27375
Title:	Know North Carolina Club Collection
Accession No.:	12-006
Extent:	1 box
Provenance:	Donated by Mary Williams who was secretary of the club from 1964 until it disbanded in 1976
Inclusive Dates:	1931-1976
Subject Headings:	Clubs – Reidsville (N. C.) Know North Carolina Club
Items Separated:	
Related Collections:	
Preferred Citation:	<i>Know North Carolina Club Collection. 12-006. Rockingham Co. Historical Collections, Gerald B. James Library, Rockingham Community College.</i>
Descriptive Note:	The Know North Carolina Club was formed in Reidsville, NC in February of 1931 by a group of women who shared a common interest in their native state. The collection consists of club yearbooks, club minute books and other miscellaneous papers. A club member, Mrs. J. F. McDonald, preserved a copy of the club yearbook from 1933 until her death in 1966. These yearbooks were passed on to Mary Williams, the club secretary. Williams continued to add a yearbook to the collection each year until it disbanded in 1976. See attached for more club history.

Contents:

Minutes Book	1963-1965
Minutes Book	1965-1968
Minutes Book	1968-1972
Minutes Book	1972-1976
Miscellaneous	1960s-1970s
Yearbooks	1933-1939
Yearbooks	1940-1950
Yearbooks	1950-1959
Yearbooks	1960-1969
Yearbooks	1969-1976
Newspaper Articles 1931 Reidsville Review, Reidsville, NC	

Club History:

The Know North Carolina Club was organized in February 1931 by a group of women in Reidsville, NC. The first 32 years of the club minutes are missing, so little is known about the organization during its early history. Fortunately, yearbooks have been preserved for the years 1933-1976 and these contain membership lists and the names of club officers.

A copy of the club constitution gives the purpose of the club as being the study of the different phases of No. Carolina history (past and present), state government, flora, fauna, people, products and the state's progress. The constitution and by-laws required at least 12 members and officers including a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer. The officers were elected in April for a 2 year term and meetings were held each month from October through May. Dues were \$2.00 per year and the meetings were to be held in the homes of the members.

The 1933 yearbook gives a list of names on the club roll and are likely the charter members: Mrs. Avery Baker, Miss Mary M. Baker, Miss Sallie Dobbs, Mrs. C. L. Firesheets, Mrs. W. S. Goodson, Mrs. J. C. Hall, Mrs. F. E. Hester, Mrs. J. F. McDonald, Mrs. R. E. Moffett, Mrs. J. S. Moore and Mrs. J. D. Womack. Mrs. J. E. Meador whose name is not listed was probably also a charter member.

An article in the 20 Feb 1931 edition of the Reidsville Review is the earliest reference to the club. The article states that Mrs. R. E. Moffett was the first president and the first meeting was held in the home of Mrs. Avery Baker on Franklin St. At this meeting, papers on the following subjects were read: "Natural Resources" by Mrs. C. L. Firesheets, "Economic and Social Characteristics" by Miss Mary Baker, and "Tidewater Carolina" by Mrs. J. E. Meador. The program schedules show that current events, nature study, poetry, book reviews and journal articles were the most frequent subjects of meetings.

Presidents listed in the program schedules:

Mrs. R. E. Moffett	1931-1932
Mrs. J. S. Moore	1932-1937
Mrs. C. L. Firesheets	1937-1940
Mrs. James D. Womack	1940-1942
Mrs. Avery Baker	1942-1944
Mrs. J. C. Hall	1944-1946
Mrs. R. I. Daily	1946-1948
Mrs. H. H. Dodson	1948-1950
Mrs. C. S. George	1950-1952
Mrs. J. F. McDonald	1952-1954
Mrs. J. S. Moore	1954-1956
Mrs. C. L. Firesheets	1956-1958
Mrs. J. B. Huskey	1958-1959
Mrs. Fred Jones	1960-1962
Mrs. R. I. Dailey	1962-1964
Mrs. H. H. Dodson	1964-1965

Secretaries:

Mrs. F. E. Hester	1931 (or 1933)-1957
Mrs. Mary Williams	1964-1976

Over the years occasional new members joined the group:

Mrs. J. E. Meador	1936-1936
Mrs. C. L. Yount	1937-1938
Mrs. Jack Smith	1938-1939
Mrs. R. I. Dailey	1940-1941
Miss Sallie Stott	1940-1941
Mrs. Hugh Martin	1941-1942
Mrs. C. S. George	1944-1945
Mrs. H. H. Dodson	1944-1945
Mrs. J. B. Somers	1952-1953
Mrs. Alonza Somers	1953-1954
Mrs. J. B. Huskey	1955-1956
Mrs. Fred Jones	1957-1958
Mrs. W. E. McCollum	1957-1958
Mrs. Fontaine Jenkins	1960-1961
Mrs. Mary Williams	1960-1961
Mrs. Hugh Martin	1963-1964
Mrs. Thomas E. Winn	1964-1965
Mrs. Lena H. Jahnke	1967-1968

The Know North Carolina Club celebrated its 45th anniversary in the spring of 1976. Three of the members had been active in the club since its inception. They were Mrs. Avery Baker, Miss Mary M. Baker and Mrs. J. S. Moore. The last meeting of the 1975-1976 year was

held on May 11, 1976 at the home of Mrs. Fred Jones with six members in attendance. New officers were elected for 1976-1977. This appears to be the last meeting of the club. Due to deaths and the increasing age of its members the disbanded after 45 years.

Robert W. Carter, Jr.
25 October 1995

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