

Collection #
M0761

ME-DE-PHAR GUILD RECORDS, 1944–1989

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION:

One manuscript box

COLLECTION DATES:	1944–1989
PROVENANCE:	Alfreida Garner, 6245 Riverview Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46260, October 1999
RESTRICTIONS:	None
COPYRIGHT:	
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ALTERNATE FORMATS:	
RELATED HOLDINGS:	
ACCESSION NUMBER:	2000.0053
NOTES:	

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Me-De-Phar Guild, an African-American woman's club, was organized in 1944. Membership included the wives, mothers, daughters, and sisters of physicians, dentists, and pharmacists. In 1984, the guild's bylaws were revised to state that membership "shall include spouses of practicing, retired, and deceased physicians, including interns and residents, dentists, and pharmacists of the Indianapolis community." The medical (Me), dental (De), and pharmaceutical (Phar) auxiliary was created to promote good health facilities, to establish better relations between the community and the health professionals in Indianapolis, and to give financial aid to young women interested in some branch of the allied health fields.

Mrs. Francis D. Hummons submitted the name for the club. Mary H. Alexander was the first president of the organization. Past presidents have included Mrs. Bertha Brown, Mrs. Frank E. Chowning, Mrs. Spurling Clark, Mrs. Roy D. Clinthorne, Mrs. Chester Cox, Mrs. F. H. Evans, Mrs. Robert Lawson, Mrs. Walter Maddux, Mrs. S. D. Meriwether, Mrs. O. B. Paige, Mrs. Raymond Pierce, Mrs. Mary Ward Roberts, and Mrs. E. P. Thomas

In 1974 the guild celebrated its 30th anniversary with a luncheon fashion show at Stouffer's Inn. It featured fashions by Alpha Blackburn, fashion designer and local television personality. Other annual fashion shows have been held at the Walker Casino, Beef n' Boards, and St. Peter Claver Center. Proceeds from events have been used to give money and equipment to General Hospital (now Wishard Hospital), public school clinics, and the Alpha Home for the Aged.

The organization continues to operate. As of October 2001, Cynthia Dezadier is the president.

Sources: Materials in the collection.

Telephone interview with Alfreida Garner, donor of collection, 26 September 2001.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection, contained in one flat manuscript box, includes programs, directories, a sign with the guild's logo, and a

scrapbook. The programs, contained in folder 1, pertain to the fiftieth anniversary of the club in 1994 and its annual fashion shows from 1987 to 1990. Folder 2 contains directories of the club's membership (1979–1985, n.d.). A copy of the guild's logo is in folder 3. Much of the scrapbook (folder 4) was compiled by Edith Chowning from 1973–1975, and contains materials pertaining to the Me-De-Phar Guild. The scrapbook 's contents date from 1944 to 1989. It includes a history, constitution and bylaws, correspondence, programs, reports, photographs, awards, and publicity materials (flyers, invitations, and newsclippings).

CONTENTS

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Guild programs, 1987-1994	Box 1, Folder 1
Guild directories, 1979-1985	Box 1, Folder 2
Me-De-Phar Guild logo	Box 1, Folder 3
Me-De-Phar Guild scrapbook, 1944–1989	Box 1, Folder 4

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://157.91.92.2/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0761).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.