

Collection #
M 1154

BENEFÉ GUILD RECORDS **1950–2014**

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Processed by

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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 4 manuscript boxes, 1 folder black and white photographs, 1 folder color photographs, 1 DVD

COLLECTION DATES: 1950–2014

PROVENANCE: Susan A. Rizzo, Zionsville, IN, 2014

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2014.0216

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Benefé Guild of Indianapolis began on 7 March 1950 at the home of Mrs. George House. In the beginning the Benefé Guild was known as the "Federation Junior Women's Club." There were fourteen charter members who met that day in March 1950.

Indiana Federation of Clubs is not only a member of GFWC (General Federation of Women's Clubs) but the parent organization to 32 volunteer clubs throughout Indiana (as of 2014). The Indiana clubs consist of both general and junior clubs. (Junior clubs at one time were those members between the age of 18 and 40. The membership age limits for Junior clubs no longer exist in Indiana.) There are over 630 active members of IFC.

Like GFWC the service areas for IFC as well as the local clubs are divided into six areas distinguishing them from other service organizations by the breadth of outreach. Programs span all areas of the lives of members, their families, and communities: arts, conservation, education, home life, public affairs, and international affairs.

GFWC's Junior members along with IFC Juniors have designed a special project, Advocates for Children, that encourages members to become active advocates for children by working to:

- Protect children from harmful situations
- Encourage healthy lifestyles
- Prevent substance abuse and youth suicide

Members can participate in projects that address issues such as bullying, children with cancer, car safety seats, and emergency medical services for children. In addition, Juniors work with partner organizations that advocate on behalf of children across the country.

The Benefé Guild ceased functioning as of June 2014 "due to the lack of new and younger members to continue the fundraising activities of the group." The remaining members donated the remaining \$1,660.53 in their treasury to the Julian Center and donated their records to the Indiana Historical Society. The remaining members agreed to remain a social group and meet at least four times a year.

Sources:

Materials in collection.

Website: <http://www.gfwcindiana.com/page2%20about%20us.html> (accessed 6 Nov 2014)

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Benefé Guild Collection consists of most of their President's meeting minutes, financial reports, annual Barnstorm event planning and reports, correspondence, and member handbooks. The materials span March 1950 through June 2014, although some material for certain years is missing from the collection. The collection is divided into six series as follows:

Series One - Consists of one folder of black and white photographs taken in 1977, one folder of color photographs from 2000, and a DVD of color photographs taken at the IRT fashion show in 2006.

Series Two - This series consists of newspaper clippings dating from 1973–1976, 1978, and 1981. Most of the clippings are to promote the Guild's annual Barnstorm fundraiser event every October.

Series Three - Contents consist of the minutes of the first meeting 7 March 1950, and subsequent meetings through June 1984, list of charter members, by-laws, committee members, and financial reports.

Series Four - Consists of President's meeting notes, financial reports, member lists, correspondence, and miscellaneous materials, 1985–86 through 2000–01 (July 1984-June 1985 are missing).

Series Five - Consists of President's meeting notes, financial reports, member lists, correspondence, and miscellaneous materials, 2001–02 through 2013–14.

Series Six - Consists of Member Handbooks from 1957 through 2013. The handbooks contain the by-laws, member names and addresses, committee, and financial data.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Photographs

CONTENTS

In photo (left to right) - Mrs. Phil Gumpert, Mrs. Richard Wagner, and Mrs. Albert Blake, General Chairman for the Benefé Barnstorm event, ca. 1977

In photo (left to right) - Mrs. Joseph Shoemaker, Mrs. Thomas Connor, and Benefé Ben readying for the Country Store, ca. 1977

Mrs. Herbert Baumeister with Benefé Ben, ca. 1977 (2 photos)

Benefé Ben standing up, ca. 1977

Benefé Ben driving a car, ca. 1977 (2 photos)

Two unidentified Benefé members making bread for a fundraiser (8 color photos), ca. 2000

IRT Fashion Show 2006, 80 Color Photos

CONTAINER

Photographs
Box 1, Folder 1

Photographs
Box 1, Folder 1

Photographs
Box 1, Folder 1

Photographs
Box 1, Folder 1

Photographs
Box 1, Folder 1

Color Photographs
Folder 1

DVD 0637

Series 2: Newspaper Clippings

CONTENTS

1973 Newspaper Clippings

1974 Newspaper Clippings

1975 Newspaper Clippings

1976 Newspaper Clippings

1978 Newspaper Clippings

1981 Newspaper Clipping

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 2

Series 3: March 1950 – June 1984

CONTENTS

Minutes of first meeting 7 March 1950 and subsequent meetings 1950-51, list of charter members, by-laws, committee members 1951-52

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists 1954–55 through 1964–65 and a 1957 Christmas Party invitation

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists 1965–66 through 1973–74

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists 1974–75 through 1981–82

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists 1982–83 through 1983–84

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 3

Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 5

Box 1, Folder 6

Box 1, Folder 7

Series 4: July 1985 – June 2001

CONTENTS

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, miscellaneous materials, 1985–86 through 1990–91

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, miscellaneous materials, 1991–92 through 1994–95

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, miscellaneous materials, 1995–96 through 1996–97

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, miscellaneous materials, 1997–98 through 1997–98

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, miscellaneous materials, 1998–99

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, miscellaneous materials, 1999–2000

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, miscellaneous materials, 2000–01

CONTAINER

Box 2, Folder 1

Box 2, Folder 2

Box 2, Folder 3

Box 2, Folder 4

Box 2, Folder 5

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 7

Series 5: July 2002 – June 2014

CONTENTS

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, miscellaneous materials, 2002–03

CONTAINER

Box 3, Folder 1

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, miscellaneous materials, 2003–04

Box 3, Folder 2

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, miscellaneous materials, 2004–05

Box 3, Folder 3

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, check register 2000-06, miscellaneous materials, 2005–06

Box 3, Folder 4

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, miscellaneous materials, 2006–07

Box 3, Folder 5

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, miscellaneous materials, 2007–08

Box 3, Folder 6

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, miscellaneous materials, 2008–09

Box 3, Folder 7

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, miscellaneous materials, 2009–10

Box 3, Folder 8

President's Notes, Treasurer Reports, member lists, miscellaneous materials, 2009–14

Box 3, Folder 9

Series 6: Member Handbooks 1957–2013

CONTENTS

Member Handbooks July 1957–June 1985

CONTAINER

Box 4, Folder 1

Member Handbooks July 1985–June 1998

Box 4, Folder 2

Member Handbooks July 1998–June 2013

Box 4, Folder 3

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://opac.indianahistory.org/>
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 1154).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.