

# **GLENS FALLS CLUB OF COLLEGE WOMEN RECORDS: A Guide to the Collection**

## **OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS**

- Repository:** Crandall Public Library  
Center for Folklife, History, and Cultural Programs,  
Glens Falls, NY.
- Creator:** Glens Falls Club of College Women (Glens Falls, N.Y.)
- Title:** Glens Falls Club of College Women Records.
- Dates:** 1907–2011.
- Abstract:** The Glens Falls Club of College Women aims to promote the interests of college women, to maintain a spirit of fellowship among them, and to extend educational interests. Records of the Club consist of its constitution and by-laws; minutes, membership books, and other material including papers presented to the Club, lists, and information about reading resources.
- Quantity:** 1 1/2 cubic foot (1 carton, 1 document box)
- Identification:** Archives & Manuscripts: Organizations

## **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

The Glens Falls Club of College Women was established November 25, 1907 in Glens Falls, N.Y. by seventeen charter members to promote the interests of college women, maintain a spirit of fellowship, and to extend educational interests. The charter members were alumna of Vassar, Syracuse, Bryn Mawr, Smith, Wellesley, and Oberlin. New members tended to be graduates of eastern liberal arts schools. The group met in member's homes for refreshments, and to hear a paper presented by one of the members. The Club did not meet in July or August. The constitution restricted membership to women in the Glens Falls area holding a four-year degree from any college or university recognized by the American Association of University Women. Members paid small annual dues (\$.25 in 1907- \$8.00 in 1979), and had the responsibility of presenting a paper to the group.

Money the Club raised through dues, and occasional fundraising activities, allowed the group to make small scholarships to college women. The scholarship was later changed to a loan, beginning in 1920, to assist a Glens Falls high school senior woman enrolled at a college or university. In 1979 the Eva Austin Judkins Scholarship of \$300 was presented to a female high school senior (alternating between Glens Falls High School and Queensbury High School.) Membership in the Club is limited to 60 women. The membership grew from 17 to 58 in 1950 and remained in the 50's into the 1980s.

*(Source: Traditions of the Glens Falls Club of College Women, A paper assembled and presented by Patricia V. Leonard, May 14, 1992.)*

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE RECORDS**

Records of the Glens Falls Club of College Women consist of bound minute books into which the secretary included the founding constitution, list of charter members, financial records, and annual reports. The minute books contain the names of proposed new members, debate over membership requirements, notes on the paper topics (eight per year rotating among the membership), outside speakers (one per year), and scholarships or loans made to high school female seniors. Annual reports summarizing the Club's activities are included in the minute books.

In the early years the Crandall Library paid a supporting role by maintaining a file in the library of the papers presented to the group, and by keeping a reserve of reading materials related to the topic the group was studying. Members were expected to do background reading and provide a bibliography along with their papers. A majority of the paper topics were on literature and the humanities, but included travel, education, history, and discussion of social issues. Major social issues of the day are reflected in both the choice of paper topics and the minute books. Examples are a reference to donating wool and needles to the Red Cross in 1917, to the purchase by the Club of Thrift Bonds, and the Club's support of the Prohibition Movement. The Club communicated their support of the Child Labor Laws in the 1920's by sending a telegram to their Congressmen and supported Mrs. Laughton's efforts to control the billboards used as roadside advertisement.

The records of the Glens Falls Club of College Women provide insight to the social life and the concerns of a segment of well-educated women in the Glens Falls area.

## **ORGANIZATION OF THE RECORDS**

Box 1 (Carton):

Arranged in chronological order in the following series:

10 bound minute books, 1907-1979.

Constitution and by-laws.

Annual programs and membership directories, 1908-2011.

Papers, poetry, bibliography, and SUNY Certificate of Registry 1938, 1940, 1944.

Box 2 (Document):

3 minute books: 1979-95; 1995-99; 2000-2004.

## **INDEX TERMS**

**Topics:** Women—Education—New York (State)—Glens Falls—History.  
Women—New York (State)—Glens Falls—Societies and clubs—  
History.

**Places:** Glens Falls (N.Y.)—History—Sources.

**Organizations:** Glens Falls Club of College Women (Glens Falls, N.Y.).

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

**Preferred Citation:** Glens Falls Club of College Women Records,  
Center for Folklife, History, and Cultural Programs,  
Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY.

**Accession Information:** Accession Number: 0000-007.

**Processing Information:** Arranged and described by Albert W. Fowler and  
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