

## Leisure Hour Club Records, 1887-2013

### Collection Summary

<b>Reference Code:</b>	MRQ, US.
<b>Repository:</b>	Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
<b>Call Number:</b>	MSS 75
<b>Creator:</b>	Leisure Hour Club (Haverhill, Mass.)
<b>Title:</b>	Leisure Hour Club Records
<b>Dates:</b>	1887-2013
<b>Size:</b>	2.5 linear feet (5 boxes)
<b>Language(s):</b>	Collection materials are in English.
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Leisure Hour Club records document the administration and activities of this women's social organization from its inception in 1887 until 2013.

### Organizational History

The Leisure Hour Club was founded in 1887 for "social and intellectual intercourse and advancement." On November 16<sup>th</sup>, twelve ladies met with Mrs. Caesar D. Cheney and organized the club. There was no president or vice-president; each member took a turn presiding over the meetings. Members researched a topic and presented their subject at the meeting. The first paper written and given at a meeting in 1887 was entitled "Russia." Membership was limited to 15. They met bi-weekly until about 1964.

At the first annual meeting in 1888 it was voted to increase the membership to 20 and at the first meeting that fall, popular "five minute talks" by member were introduced. In 1894, the club chose yellow as the club color. Occasionally the members took a trip to an interesting place. On April 5, 1899, it was voted to have an hourglass printed in gilt and black on their programs for the next year. The club donated money to charitable causes over the years.

The records end in 2013. In 2021, it is not known if the club is still active.

### Arrangement

Series 1. Administrative, 1887-2011, undated

Subseries 1.1. Record Books, 1887-2011

Subseries 1.2. Other Administrative, 1895-1919, 1961-2011, undated

Series 2. Programs and Members, 1889-2013, undated  
    Subseries 2.1. Programs, 1889-2013, undated  
    Subseries 2.2. Members, 1949, 1974-2011, undated  
Series 3. Financial, 1950-1988, 2005, undated  
Series 4. Scrapbook, 1987-2013

## Scope and Content Note

The Leisure Hour Club records document the administration and activities of the organization from its inception in 1887 until 2013. It has been organized into three series. Series one contains administrative records. Subseries 1.1 contains record books and subseries 1.2 contains other administrative records such as news clippings, correspondence, history of the club, by-laws, a list of meeting leaders, and an engraved steel block with the image of an hour glass. Series two contains material about programs and members. Subseries 2.1 contains programs, invitations, photographs, speeches, a slide show on the founding members, lists, and agendas. Subseries 2.2 contains material about members, such as member lists, member cards, newsletters, obituaries, a presentation, memorial material, and an illustration of an hour glass. Series three contains financial records, including receipts, an account book, a check register, and a treasurer's report.

## Administrative Information

<b>Preferred Citation:</b>	[Item Identification], Leisure Hour Club Records, MSS 75, Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
<b>Custodial History:</b>	Material was acquired from creator.
<b>Acquisition Information:</b>	Unknown.
<b>Processing Information:</b>	Processed by Tamara Gaydos, 2021. Revised by Elizabeth Smith, 2025.
<b>Access Rights:</b>	Collection is open for research.
<b>Phys. Access Restrictions:</b>	None.
<b>Tech. Access Restrictions:</b>	None.
<b>Copyright:</b>	Copyright has not been assigned to the Haverhill Public Library. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Board of Trustees. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Haverhill Public Library as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the researcher.
<b>Related Collections:</b>	None.
<b>Separated Material:</b>	None.

**Conservation Notes:** Photographs were sleeved to protect them. Newspaper clippings were photocopied onto archival quality paper. Paperclips and staples were removed.

**Subjects:** Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.)  
 Haverhill (Mass.) – History  
 Leisure Hour Club (Haverhill, Mass.)  
 Programs  
 Women – Massachusetts -- Haverhill  
 Women -- Societies and clubs  
 Women in charitable work

## Collection Inventory

**Series 1: Administrative, 1887-2011, undated**

This series consists of two subseries: 1.1, Record Books; and 1.2, Other Administrative.

**Subseries 1.1: Record Books, 1887-2011**

This subseries contains record books, arranged chronologically.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Record book, 1887-1934	1	1
Record book, 1934-1949	1	2
Record book, 1949-1967	1	3
Record book, 1967-1980	1	4
Record book, 1980-1990	2	1
Record book, 1994-2004	2	2
Record book, 2004-2011	2	3

**Subseries 1.2: Other Administrative, 1895-1919, 1961-2011, undated**

This subseries contains other administrative records such as news clippings, correspondence, history of the club, by-laws, a list of meeting leaders, and an engraved steel block with the image of an hour glass, arranged chronologically.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
News clippings, 1895-1919, 1973-1976, 1987, 1993-1996	2	4
Correspondence, 1961-1995	2	5
History, 1962, 1987, undated	2	6

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Correspondence, 1997-2011, undated	2	7
By-laws, 1964, 1966, 1975, 2002	3	1
Meeting leaders list, 2007-2010	3	2
Leisure Hour Club engraved steel block, undated	3	

**Series 2: Programs and Members, 1889-2013, undated**

This series consists of two subseries: 2.1, Programs; and 2.2, Members.

**Subseries 2.1: Programs, 1889-2013, undated**

This subseries contains programs, invitations, photographs, speeches, a slide show on the founding members, lists, and agendas.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Programs, 1889-1910	3	3
Programs, 1910-1940	3	4
Programs, 1940-1970	3	5
75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, speech, 1962	3	6
Programs, 1970-2000	3	7
Founding Members program and slide show, and handout (draft and final), 1980, 1983, 1987, 1999	3	8
Founding Members slide carousel, tape, DVD, undated	5 OS	
100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, invitation, notes, speeches, lists, 1987	3	9
100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, photographs of dinner, April 1987	3	10
100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, photographs of tea, November 1987	3	11
Mystery ride invitations, 1996-1997	4	1
Women's Literary Union meeting, photographs, invitation, agenda, 1997	4	2
Programs, 2000-2011	4	3
115 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, speech, 2002	4	4
115 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, photographs, 2002	4	5
125 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, invitation, photocopies of photographs, lists of attendees, 2012	4	6
Note about 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1937, undated	4	7

**Subseries 2.2: Members, 1949, 1974-2011, undated**

This subseries contains member lists, member cards, newsletters, obituaries, a presentation, memorial material, an illustration of an hour glass, and an image of a sachet, arranged chronologically.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Member lists, 1949, 1985-1988, 2000-2011, undated	4	8
Member cards, 1974-1988	4	9
Newsletters, 1987	4	10
Obituaries, 1994-1999, 2010	4	11
<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
United States history presentation, 1999	4	12
Memorial for Evelyn Shaw, 2001	4	13
Images of earliest members, undated	4	14
Illustration of an hour glass and image of a sachet, undated	4	15

**Series 3: Financial, 1950-1988, 2005, undated**

This series contains financial records such as receipts, an account book, a check register, and a treasurer's report, arranged chronologically.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Receipts, 1950-1959, 1970-1988, undated	4	16
Account book, 1950-1964	4	17
Check register, 1970-1983	4	18
Treasurer's report, 2005	4	19

**Series 4: Scrapbook, including profiles, 1987-2013**

This series contains roll call documents and photographs from a scrapbook that was separated and boxed.

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Founding	4	20
Roll Call	4	21
April 1987 Photographs, 1987	4	22
Scrapbook	4	23
Photographs, 1987. 2001	4	24
Scrapbook	4	25
Profiles, 2012	4	26
Scrapbook	4	27
Scrapbook	4	28