

**TENNESSEE FEDERATION  
OF WOMEN'S CLUBS--  
ADDITION  
1928-1998**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

This finding aid covers the Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs--Additions 1928-1998. The materials were donated to the Tennessee State Library and Archives by Margaret A. Colby, TFWC historian, of Hermitage, Tennessee in October, 1998. The collection measures 2.5 cubic feet and consists of minutes, histories, correspondence, publications, reports, and notices of resignation. The materials arrived in order and the arrangement has been kept. There are no restrictions on the papers and single photocopies may be made for scholarly research.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY**

On November 20, 1885, Mrs. L. Crozier French of Knoxville organized the first Woman's Club in the South. It was named Ossoli Circle in Honor of Margaret Fuller Ossoli who had formed Women's study circles in Boston as early as 1839.

Tennessee was one of the states that gathered at Madison Square Theater in 1890 and helped bring the General Federation into being. A Tennessee woman served as the first Corresponding Secretary of the General Federation.

In the year 1896 Ossoli Circle issued invitations to other clubs in Tennessee to meet in Knoxville for the purpose of creating a State Federation. Twenty clubs sent delegates. The national President was present and made a speech at this organizational meeting of the Tennessee Federation.

The Tennessee Federation then became involved in many kinds of projects. Concern for the Mountain Division work still remains a continued effort today.

Other projects of the Tennessee Federation included the compulsory education bill, bills for support and improvement of public school systems, a bill to permit women to serve on school boards, interest in home economics, industrial education, a training school for delinquent girls, improvement of labor conditions for women and children, and a married women's property rights bill.

The Tennessee Federation supported the formation of a permanent State Art Council, driver education courses in high schools, literacy and adult education courses, cleaner movies and literature, and a "Teacher of the Year" award.

During WWI the women of Tennessee were among the first women in the United States to render their services to the government for production and conservation of food.

The Tennessee Federation sponsored the planting of thousands of trees. As a result of that effort, in 1956 the TFWC President announced the completion of the Tennessee Memorial Forest with a total of sixty acres planted. During the same period, through funds released by the state for restoration of old Fort Loudon, in Knoxville, TFWC raised an historic monument of colonial days.

More recently the emphasis has been on child advocacy, justice for juveniles, equal rights for women, sheriffs' boys town, CARE, community improvement, veterans' assistance and supplies, the handicapped, and many other areas of concern. Through the years the TFWC has

provided leadership and a forward outlook which has affected not only the lives of its members, but the community and world as well.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The materials in this collection are additions to the Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs Records (Accession Number 94.012). They consist of many of the same types of materials: minutes, histories, correspondence, publications, reports, and notices of resignation. The materials arrived in order and the arrangement has been kept.

The oldest documents are minutes from the Clarksville Federation of Women's Clubs, Students Club of Clarksville, and the Mother's Club of Clarksville. These date back to 1928. The rest of the collection consists of materials from the mid 1980's to the present.

The Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs first donated materials in 1973. Federation officers continue donate more documents to the Tennessee State Library and Archives periodically as they become available.

## CONTAINER LIST

### **Box 1**

1. Awards--State Convention--Local Clubs--1992 - 1994
2. Bylaws--Local Club--GFWC Lakeway Leaders--1988
3. Certificates--GFWC Merit Award--GFWC Clubwoman--1996
4. Certificates--GFWC Award of Merit--Cultural Exchange--1994
5. Certificates--GFWC Award of Merit--International Understanding--1994
6. Certificates--GFWC Award of Merit--School Issues--1994
7. Certificates--GFWC Award of Merit--Trade and Aid--1994
8. Certificates--GFWC Award of Outstanding Service--Fund Raising--1994
9. Certificates--GFWC of Recognition--Promoting GFWC Identity--1996
10. Clippings--Newspaper--Commercial Appeal--Louise Malone Ross--1997
11. Correspondence--Aluminum Company of America--1994-1995
12. Correspondence--Care, Inc.--Mrs. Jones Ross--1962
13. Correspondence--GFWC--Pat Thurston--1995
14. Financial--TFWC--Audit--1987
15. Financial--TFWC--Audit--1995 - 1996
16. Financial--TFWC--Budget--1985 - 1986
17. Financial--TFWC--Budget--1986 - 1988
18. Financial--TFWC--Budget--1990 - 1992
19. Financial--TFWC--Budget--1992 - 1993
20. Financial--TFWC--Budget--1996 - 1998
21. History--Local Club--Clarksville Federation of Women's Clubs--19\_\_
22. History--Local Club--Hancock Woman's Club--1997 - 1998
23. History--Local Club--Knoxville Woman's Club--1996 - 1997
24. History--Local Club--Monday Club--1996 - 1997
25. History--Local Club--Stones River Woman's Club--1996 - 1997
26. History--TFWC--President Margaret England--1986 - 1988

### **Box 2**

1. Minutes--Local Club--Clarksville Federation of Women's Clubs--1939 - 1945
2. Minutes--Local Club--Clarksville Federation of Women's Clubs--1946 - 1952
3. Minutes--Local Club--Clarksville Federation of Women's Clubs--1960 - 1964
4. Minutes--Local Club--Clarksville Federation of Women's Clubs--1964 - 1969
5. Minutes--Local Club--Clarksville Federation of Women's Clubs--1975 - 1983
6. Minutes--Local Club--Clarksville Federation of Women's Clubs--1984 - 1990

### **Box 3**

1. Minutes--Local Club--Mother's Club of Clarksville--1928 - 1932
2. Minutes--Local Club--Mother's Club of Clarksville--1932 - 1936
3. Minutes--Local Club--Students Club of Clarksville--1954 - 1958
4. Minutes--Local Club--Students Club of Clarksville--1958 - 1962

5. Minutes--Local Club--Wednesday Club of Clarksville--1950 - 1955

6. Minutes--Local Club--Wednesday Club of Clarksville--1959 - 1963
7. Minutes--Local Club--Woman's Club of Clarksville--1991 - 1992
8. Minutes--State President Dorothy Thomas--1988 - 1990
9. Minutes--State President Joan Beaver--1990 - 1992
10. Minutes--State President Sherri Carol--1992 - 1994
11. Minutes--State President Pat Thurston--1994 - 1996
12. Minutes--State President Sue Walker--1996 - 1998

#### **Box 4**

1. Notices--Resignation--Bolivar Junior Woman's Club--1989
2. Notices--Resignation--Collierville Woman's Club--1993
3. Notices--Resignation--Contemporary Club--1994
4. Notices--Resignation--Elizabethton Junior Woman's Club--1994
5. Notices--Resignation--Inter Se Club--1996
6. Notices--Resignation--Johnson City Junior Woman's Club--1997
7. Notices--Resignation--Kosmos Woman's Club--1993
8. Notices--Resignation--Lakeway Leaders Club--1994
9. Notices--Resignation--Twentieth Century Club--1993
10. Notices--Resignation--Twentieth Century Juniorettes--1993
11. Notices--Resignation--Women in Collierville--1993
12. Publications--Annual Agenda--TFWC Convention--1996 - 1998
13. Publications--Agenda--TFWC Fall Conference--1988
14. Publications--Bulletins--TFWC Annual Convention--1991
15. Publications--Bulletins--TFWC Fall Conference--1987
16. Publications--Bulletins--TFWC Fall Conference--1990 - 1991
17. Publications--Bulletins--Tennessee Federation News--1986 - 1988
18. Publications--Bulletins--Tennessee Federation News--1988
19. Publications--Bulletins--Tennessee Federation News--1991
20. Publications--Bulletins--Tennessee Federation News--1994 - 1996
21. Publications--Bulletins--Tennessee Federation News--1996 - 1998
22. Publications--Bulletins--The Tennessee Clubwoman--1935 - 1937
23. Publications--Bulletins--The Tennessee Clubwoman--1950 - 1951
24. Publications--Bulletins--Tennessee Federation Bulletin--1930
25. Publications--State Handbook--President Pat Thurston--1994 - 1996
26. Publications--State Handbook--President Sue Walker--1996 - 1998

#### **Box 5**

1. Reports--Administrative--President Dorothy Thomas--1988 - 1990
2. Reports--Administrative--President Sherri Carroll--1992 - 1994
3. Reports--Administrative--President Pat Thurston--1994 - 1996
4. Reports--Administrative--President Sue Walker--1996 - 1998
5. Reports--Annual--Local Club--Students of Clarksville--1943 - 1962
6. Reports--Annual--Local Club--Clarksville Federation--1954 - 1962

7. Reports--Annual--Local Club--Federated Clubs of Clarksville--1935 - 1940
8. Reports--Annual--Local Club--Woman's Book Club--1955
9. Reports--Annual--Local Club--Wednesday Club--1939 - 1954
10. Reports--Annual--Local Club--TFWC State Officers--1988
11. Reports--TFWC Committees--Special--1991
12. Reports--TFWC District--District IX--1992 - 1994
13. Transfers--Metaphysical--1995