

**Fortnightly Study Club Collection**  
**Special Collections – Akron Summit County Public Library**

ACCESSIONS # SC-2008-45

LOCATION: 9 A 5

ACQUISITION: Janice Lynn Morgan O’Neil donated this collection on September 8, 2008

ACCESS: Restricted access; materials fragile; access by request at Main Library Special Collections only.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT:**

The Fortnightly Study Club was founded in Kenmore, Ohio on February 4, 1924 by Irene Love Cook (a.k.a. Mrs. Walter Lewis Cook) so that neighborhood women could study culture and literature. The club was so popular that other chapters, or groups, were soon organized. The original club, Group One or Section One, was instrumental in the Kenmore Public Library and contributed to other community projects.

The collection consists of two ledgers containing minutes of the organization and other related items. Book one contains handwritten meeting minutes from the first meeting on February 4, 1924-January 26, 1932. A treasurer’s report from 1927-1928, rules and by-laws, and membership lists are included at the back of the book. News clippings and a paper with the words to the club’s song were inserted into the book prior to its donation. Book two contains handwritten and typed minutes from November 12, 1946-December, 1966 and for most years includes programs outlining the meetings and listing officers and members of Section One. A four-page handwritten speech prepared for the club’s 25th anniversary and a thank you note that were included in envelopes attached to the back of minute book two have been removed and placed into folders. The donor, who is the granddaughter of founder Irene Love Cook, also provided three photographs of Cook and a clipping from the club’s 45th anniversary in 1969 for the Library to copy and keep with the original items.

**CONTAINER LIST:** 1 small manuscript box containing the following:

Phase Box: Minute Book 1, February 4, 1924-January 26, 1932

Phase Box: Minute Book 2, November 12, 1946-December, 1966

Folder #1: Program for 1943, including a schedule of meetings and identifying the club officers, program committee members, members and past presidents. This item was found loose in Minute Book 1.

- Folder #2: Note from Irene Love Cook to her fellow club members thanking them for flowers sent on her golden wedding anniversary. This item was in an envelope attached to the last page of Minute Book 2.
- Folder #3: Four-page handwritten speech prepared by Pauline Havre for the club's 25th anniversary dinner held on February, 15, 1949. These pages were in a marked envelope attached to the inside back cover of Minute Book 2.
- Folder #4: Copies of two news clippings: one undated and about Irene Cook's being honored with a tree planting (original is attached to a page at the end of Minute Book 1) and the other from September 6, 1969 and about the club's 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- Folder #5: Photocopies and a CD with digital images of three photographs of Irene Love Cook: one of a group of women dated June 14, 1930, one of "A Normal School Group" at graduation, and one of Irene with her husband, Walter Lewis Cook.