

**Roanoke Public Libraries
Virginia Room
Magic City Garden Club Records**

Collection Description:

Repository: Roanoke Public Libraries, Virginia Room

Title: Physical Characteristics: 1 document storage case

Donated by: Unknown

Arrangement: Chronological

Creator: Magic City Garden Club

Reproduction Restrictions: No known restrictions on publication. Virginia Room copy fees apply.

Processor: Angela Stiefbold, November 2024

Historical Note:

The Magic City Garden Club, the second garden club established in the City of Roanoke, was organized in 1927 under the leadership of Kelly Rainey Davis (Mrs. George Maslin Davis). She was the club's first secretary; its first president was Martha Norton Stone (Mrs. Alvah Stone). There were nine charter members. During the 1970s and 1980s membership ranged from 25 to 40 members. The group provided education to its members about gardening and organized gardening exhibitions, including Roanoke's first indoor flower show in 1928 and the first show inviting clubs from across Southwest Virginia in 1931. It was the only club from Roanoke to be a charter member of the Virginia State Federation of Garden Clubs in 1932 and was a founding club of the Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs in 1934.

Scope and Content:

The collection includes a minute book covering 1969-1988, a booklet documenting the history of the first fifty years of the club, 1927-77, and a club yearbook from 1997-98.

Container List:

Box 1

Minute Book, 1969-1988 – Meeting minutes as well as membership lists and attendance records

“Magic City Garden Club: The First 50 Years” – Booklet commemorating the club's fiftieth anniversary, 1927-1977. Contents include: history of the club 1927-1957; history of the club 1957-77; lists of past presidents, past officers, charter members, members, and trophy awards; and poems.

Magic City Garden Club Yearbook 1997-98 – Held within small binder that belonged to Mrs. B. Day Williamson (Eva Ruth Willis Williamson), who was club treasurer during the 1990s. Includes lists of officers, committees, and members; meeting dates and programs; constitution; and by-laws.

Letter from Virginia Western Community College, July 15, 1991, acknowledging monetary donation from the Magic City Garden Club.