

McLean County Historical Society

**Denman School (White Oak Township)
Mother's Club**

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Processed by
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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	One box. Includes 7 folders (2 containing scrapbooks) and 7 notebooks.
COLLECTION DATES:	1921 - 1998
PROVENANCE:	Gift
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History.
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Denman School Club began in 1921 as a means of communication among teachers, students, and parents. Through the years, the club aided the one-room school by cleaning prior to each school year, purchasing books and a globe for the library, blackboards, all kinds of school equipment as well as obtaining a better heating stove. In the beginning meetings were held at various members' homes. The women were all rural neighbors around the community of Carlock. The school was eventually taken into Unit Five in 1983, which changed the dynamics of the club's relationship with the school. The name was changed to the Denman Mothers Club. Although it became more of a social gathering, the members turned their efforts to community projects. They did mending for the Baby Fold, made cancer dressings, and assembled scrapbooks for children's wards. Donations were made to the Salvation Army, and food was provided to children's homes at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The club's minutes show the evolution of the young members from meeting at each other's homes and discussing the latest project for the Denman School to meeting in restaurants, bragging about grandchildren, and planning an all day trip to a museum or gallery. And there was always the annual wiener roast in the fall. The Denman School Club gave members the opportunity to form close friendships with each other as well as with the teachers of the one-room school.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains thank you cards, anniversary memorabilia, scrapbooks, newspaper articles, and notebooks.

Folder Inventory

Folder 1: Photos

- 1.1 1946 Classroom photos. Two photos of the class at desks with teacher. Names are on back.

Folder 2: Correspondence, 1979-1985

- 2.1 Thank you note from the Doris Williams family for expression of sympathy.
- 2.2 Thank you note from Betty Miller for the plant sent while in hospital.
- 2.3 Thank you for a gift of \$20 for the new firehouse
- 2.4 Thank you for a Christmas gift for the library.
- 2.5 Thank you from the O. E. Smith family for expression of sympathy.
- 2.6 Thank you for flowers sent to hospital from Becky.
- 2.7 Thank you from the Walter A. Fogle family for expression of sympathy.
- 2.8 Thank you for a donation to the Civil Defense.
- 2.9 Thank you for a donation to the Good Fellow Fund from the Pantagraph.

Folder 3: Anniversaries

- 3.1 62nd Anniversary Denman School Mothers Club program, February 16, 1983 (2)
- 3.2 2 green napkins printed with 1921 Denman School Mothers Club 1983 (2)
- 3.3 Formal engraved invitations with enclosed card (in tissue) to bring memorabilia (3)
- 3.4 Attendance record for 25th Anniversary Tea – two columns on two pages notebook paper with names and address in pencil.
- 3.5 1983 Mailing List – three pages of two columns on notebook paper in ballpoint.
- 3.6 List of former presidents from 1921 to 1983 on notebook paper in ballpoint.
- 3.7 Computer produced 8 1/2 x 11 of Denman School Mothers' Club 85th Anniversary 1924-2006.

Folder 4: Bank Statements

- 4.1 Farmers State Bank account book: Denman School Club, Nellie White-Treas. Entries dated 1947-1948.
- 4.2 Check book stubs from 1947-1948.
- 4.3 Bank of Carlock statements from 1982, 1983 (2) and 1984.

Folder 5: Newspaper Articles

- 5.1 *The Carlock Chronicle*, February 10, 1983, "Diamond Anniversary: Denman School Club Celebrating 62nd year (2 copies)
- 5.2 *The Carlock Chronicle*, March 3, 1983, "Diamond Anniversary: Denman School Club Celebrating 62nd year

Folder 6: Scrapbook I

- 6.1 50th Anniversary Denman School Mother's Club 1921 – 1971 scrap book
- 6.2 Guest list of past and present members,
- 6.3 Two newspaper articles noting the anniversary, one from the Pantagraph and one laminated "Golden Anniversary" from unidentified paper

- 6.4 50th Anniversary formal invitation requesting an RSVP note to be read if unable to attend on January 20, 1971
- 6.5 Theme Song for Denman School and agenda for the event
- 6.6 Laminated history of the fifty years (2 pages)
- 6.7 Laminated newspaper photo of Mrs. Claude English, Mrs. Leslie White, Marjorie Boitnott, president, and Miss Blanche Stutzman, second photo of Mrs. Nellie White, Mrs. Laura George and Mrs. Maude English
- 6.8 Laminated newspaper article noting the “Golden Anniversary”
- 6.9 Laminated photo of Marjorie Boitnott, Clara Stutzman, Mrs. Walter A. Fogle, Marjorie Augustine, Mrs. William Pyne standing ready to serve at the 50th Anniversary tea and punch table
- 6.10 Six photos – two of the decorated table, three of unidentified women guests, and one of four unidentified women making preparations in a kitchen.
- 6.11 RSVP regrets from former teacher Doris Cox to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.12 RSVP regrets from Mrs. Charles Eft to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.13 RSVP regrets from Miss Penny Schwitlers to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.14 RSVP regrets from Mrs. Albert J. West to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.15 Postcard from Mary Schippert to Marjorie Boitnott accepting the invitation. Mary also included a brochure from The Apparel Mart in Dallas, TX
- 6.16 RSVP regrets from Mrs. Eileen Todd to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.17 RSVP regrets from former teacher Margaret Dolly Davidson to Mrs. Stutzman in care of Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.18 RSVP regrets from Geneva Burden to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.19 RSVP regrets from Annabel Crump to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.20 RSVP regrets from Helen Hanks Allen to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.21 RSVP regrets from Doris Peterson to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.22 RSVP accepting from Vita Chapman to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.23 RSVP regrets from Cecila Grove to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.24 RSVP regrets from Esther Bozarth Chasson to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.25 RSVP regrets from Mary Schwetters to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.26 RSVP regrets from former teacher Wandalene Geiselman to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.27 RSVP regrets from former teacher Ollie Brewer to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.28 RSVP regrets from former teacher Dorothy Carlock to Marjorie Boitnott
- 6.29 Acknowledgement of receiving the invitation upon arriving home after a vacation and regretting not having attended from May Mohr to Mrs. Earl Stutzman
- 6.30 Handwritten list of former club members to send invitations (1 page)
- 6.31 Handwritten list of charter members – many have deceased written after their names (1 page)
- 6.32 Handwritten list of teachers and which years they taught (1 page)
- 6.33 Handwritten “Mailing List” of names and address (2 pages, both sides)

Folder 7: Scrapbook II

- 7.1 Scrap Book for 62nd Anniversary of the Denman Mothers Club 1921 – 1983
- 7.2 62nd Anniversary formal invitation requesting an RSVP note to be read if unable to attend on February 16, 1983 and enclosure to bring pictures or items

- 7.3 Two laminated newspaper items telling of a house fire at Steve Busick residence in Carlock on February 12, 1983. The building had to be razed after the fire as it was unsafe. It was originally built as a school in 1867 named after Smith Denman. Sold as a residence in 1948.
- 7.4 Laminated newspaper article, "Diamond Anniversary"
- 7.5 School house outline labeled Denman School containing eight signatures with Present Members at the top of the page
- 7.6 Program for "62nd Anniversary" Denman School Mothers Club, inside the Theme Song is on one side and the celebration agenda is on the other
- 7.7 School house outline labeled Denman School containing nine signatures with Past Members at the top of the page
- 7.8 Pantagraph, February 17, 1983, article "Denman Club honors two women" Picture of Blanche Stutzman and Nellie White
- 7.9 School house outline labeled Denman School containing five signatures with Former Teachers at the top of the page
- 7.10 The Carlock Chronicle, March 3, 1983, article "Diamond Anniversary: Denman School Club Celebrating 62nd Year" included photo of Nellie White and Blanch Stutzman, photo of Nellie White and Marge Boitnott, and photo of former teachers Blanche Stutzman, Daisy Carlock, Wandalene Geiselman, Vita Chapman, Dorothy Carlock.
- 7.11 School house outline labeled Denman School containing four signatures with Guests at the top of the page
- 7.12 Laminated newspaper article "Letters" A humorous public apology for turning the news on the anniversary in late. Author, Mary Ann Schwitters, was consumed with getting an electric chicken plucker at an auction for \$10 – it went for \$1,151.
- 7.13 Laminated, blurry, handwritten "History of Mothers Club" (3 pages)
- 7.14 Two green luncheon paper napkins printed: "1921 Denman School Mothers Club 1983"
- 7.15 RSVP accepting invitation from Dorothy Carlock to Mary Ann Schwitters
- 7.16 RSVP accepting invitation from Wandalene Geiselman to Mary Ann Schwitters
- 7.17 RSVP regret from former teacher Cecile F. Grove to Mary Ann Schwitters
- 7.18 RSVP regret from Ethel Eft to Mary Ann Schwitters
- 7.19 RSVP regret from Audrey Baum to Mary Ann Schwitters
- 7.20 RSVP regret from former teacher May Mohr to Mary Ann Schwitters
- 7.21 RSVP regret from former teacher Ollie Brewer to Mary Ann Schwitters
- 7.22 RSVP regret from former teacher Susan Kauffman Satterfield to Mary Ann Schwitters
- 7.23 RSVP regret from Louise Fogle to Mary Ann Schwitters
- 7.24 RSVP regret from Freida West to Mary Ann Schwitters
- 7.25 RSVP regret from Hazel English Wood (w/pictures of home in Fla.) to Mary Ann Schwitters
- 7.26 RSVP regret from Doris Peterson to Mary Ann Schwitters

Notebooks of Club Minutes

- 1. Black hardcover notebook titled on cover: The Denman School Club. Entries begin with minutes of 3rd club meeting in 1921 through 1927.

2. Black hardcover notebook begin with 1928 monthly minutes through 1935.
3. Black hardcover notebook titled on the first page "Denman School Club," entries of minutes December 1935 through 1948.
4. Tan Composition notebook titled in 2 lines on cover: "Denman School Club, The Denman School." 4 pages have minute entries February to June - no year is given.
5. Black hardcover notebook minutes for April 21, 1948 – Sept. 17, 1961, members names listed.
6. Black hardcover notebook includes minutes from October 18, 1961 - March 17, 1976 continuing a format of roll call charts and monthly balances.
7. Dark red hardcover notebook with minute entries from September 19, 1976 through May 20, 1998.