Guide to the
The IRVING JAYCEE-ETTE RECORDS
1961-1968
.75 linear ft.
Accession Number: 0001-008
Collection 78

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CITATION: The Irving Jaycee-ette Records, Collection 78, Box number, Folder number, Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.

Historical Sketch

Chamber of Commerce chapters are located across the country with the purpose of promoting local business opportunities in their communities. Many of these local organizations are also part of the United States Chamber of Commerce which lobbies for and promotes business positions on a national level. In the early 20th century, the Junior Chamber of Commerce was established for chamber members who were between the ages of 18 and 35.

This group became known as the JCs (for Junior Chamber) or more commonly the Jaycees. A support organization made up of the wives of the Jaycee members was formed with the purpose of assisting the Jaycees whenever called upon in the promotion of Jaycee activities.

The Irving Chamber of Commerce was established in 1932. The Irving Junior Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1952 and the Irving Jaycee-ettes was begun in 1954. Today, women are allowed membership in the Chamber of Commerce and the Junior Chamber so Jaycee-ette chapters are being phased out.

Sources: The Irving Jaycee-ette Records, Collection 78; The Greater Irving/Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce Collection in the Irving Archives; online history of the Chamber of Commerce.

Scope and Content

The Irving Jaycee-ette Records is arranged in two series and housed in three oversized flat boxes.

Series I, Jaycee-ette Records, consists of a minute book, 1961-1964. The book contains meeting minutes and attendance records. Details about the hostess of each meeting, treasury balances and guest speakers can be found in the minutes. Also included in the series is a New Member Guide for 1967-
1968. This booklet has information about the club’s purpose, membership qualifications, activities, projects, uniforms, officer qualifications, meetings and conventions, and the scrapbook competition.

Series II, Scrapbook, is made up of one Jaycee-ette scrapbook, 1967-1968. The hundred-page scrapbook contains photographs, programs, and newspaper clippings relating to the activities of the Irving Jaycee-ettes during that year. The scrapbook is over a foot thick, so, for preservation purposes and ease of use, it has been removed from its bindings and separated into three parts and placed in three flat boxes.

The Jaycee-ette records provide a glimpse into the life of this organization when it was at the peak of its popularity. It reflects a time, 1950s-1960s, when Irving was rapidly expanding and many young couples were moving to the suburbs in search of inexpensive housing. It also provides a look at mid-20th century America and the activities open to women before the era of gender equality.

Provenance Statement

Accession 0001-008, the Irving Jaycee-ettes Records, was donated to the Irving Archives on October 13, 2000, by Carolyn Kelly Cooper who was president of the organization in 1967-1968. Prior to its donation to the Archives, the material was in the possession of Carolyn Kelly Cooper.

Literary Right Statement

Permission to publish from the Irving Jaycee-ettes Records must be obtained from the Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.

Container List

Series I. Records

Box 1

Folder Title, Dates, and Description

1 Minute Book, 1961-1964

2 New Member Guide, 1967-1968

Series II. Scrapbook, 1967-1968

Scrapbook (pages 1-30 of 100)
Contains pages 1-30 of the 1967-1968 Jaycee-ette scrapbook. The scrapbook records the activities of the club such as: installation of officers; the Miss Irving Pageant; the 4th of July Picnic; operating concessions at a swim meet and teen dance and other Jaycee sponsored events; and sponsoring a clothes for the needy drive.

Box 2

Scrapbook (pages 31-60 of 100)
Contains pages 31-60 of the 1967-1968 Jaycee-ette scrapbook. The scrapbook records the activities of the club such as: assisting in the concession stands at Jaycee sponsored events; the club’s Christmas party; supporting girls’ softball; donating books to hospitals; and donating to the Helping Hand program.

Box 3

Scrapbook (pages 61-100 of 100)
Contains pages 61-100 of the 1967-1968 Jaycee-ette scrapbook. The scrapbook records the activities of the club such as: monthly meetings; scrapbook making meetings; and various social events held by the group. Included, attached to page 76, are the monthly meeting minutes from the 1967-1968 club year.