Finding Aid to the
Soroptimist International of Fargo, Papers

Soroptimist International of Fargo
Soroptimist International of Fargo Records, 1951-2014
3.5 Linear feet
MSS 394

OVERVIEW

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HISTORY

The Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc. began in 1938 in Des Moines, Iowa. The Soroptimist International of Fargo was chartered on October 20, 1951. Soroptimists, from the latin “soror” (sister) and “optima” (best) meaning best for women, have been involved in not only their community but also in their nation and world. The Soroptimist International is a business and professional women’s service club.

The Soroptimist International of Fargo is a part of the North Central Region. Through this organization, they have been able to give out scholarships and fellowships to women throughout this region. Such
awards include: the Alice Glover Fellowship, Youth Citizenship awards, “Women Helping Women” awards, the Training Award Program (or TAP), and, more recently, the Violet Richardson Award.

They are dedicated to service within their community and nation. They have planned projects for different topics such as: Making A Difference for Women grants, Domestic Violence Initiatives, and opportunity rewards for women. They have also been involved in local projects that range from disaster relief funds and food drives to literacy programs and supporting the local YWCA.

The Soroptimist International of Fargo is still running in the the FM area.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The Soroptimist International of Fargo, ND Records consists of club information, procedures and bylaws, correspondence, meeting minutes and conference reports, service information, treasurer and financial records, newsletters, and various ephemera.

The Club Information series holds information about workings within the club. Items include committee information documents, leadership training information, histories, information about various members and membership, and information about different events put on by the club.

The Procedures and Bylaws series holds documents and information that explain laws, bylaws, and procedures within the club. The information within this series also include changes in laws and procedures and structures and policies within the club.

The Correspondence series holds letters and other correspondence from club members and club presidents, as well as correspondence that deals with other club business. There is also correspondence from area institutions requesting funding and correspondence that deals with the club’s service within the community.

The Treasurer’s Reports and Finance series holds ledgers and reports of the treasurer of the club ranging from 1951-2014 as well as documents regarding the finances of the club.

The Conference Reports and Meeting Minutes series holds business and board meeting minutes and agendas, conference reports, and various documents such as attendance records and notes.

The Service series holds information about different programs, initiatives, and projects that the Soroptimist International of Fargo have taken on and have been a part of. This series also includes information on fundraisers for the club.

The Newsletters series holds newsletters from the club presidents to the club as well as general club newsletters.

The Ephemera series holds Soroptimist International badges and a club banner.
SEPARATION RECORD

Cassette Tapes (catalogued into Institute of Regional Studies Tape Collection)
- 580 – Prison Panel (side 1) and Conference Report (side 2)
- 581 – Mrs. Kohlberg’s Soroptimist Symphony

Photographs (Institute Photo Mss 505)
- 9 items: various photos of members at service events

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