

Buchanan College Club (Buchanan, Michigan) Records

- repository:* Local History Room, Buchanan District Library, Buchanan, MI
- finding aid:* Composed in December 2017 and updated in December 2020 by Peter Lysy.
- extent:* 22" (3 boxes).
- history:* The Buchanan College Club is an organization of college educated women whose purpose is "to work on the educational, civic, and social problems of the community" and to promote and facilitate the post-secondary education of Buchanan High School graduates. The Club provides interest-free education loans to BHS graduates and awards a merit based scholarship every year to a BHS senior at its annual Honors Banquet. Between 1928 and 1955 the Club made loans totaling over \$6,000; during the period 1952-2003, loans totaled \$164,900. Fund-raisers, dues, and the repayment of old loans generate funds for further loans and the annual scholarship. For several decades the Club held teas and similar social events to encourage girls to think about the idea of attending college. The Club subsequently broadened its focus to include both boy and girl students and has used the loan application process to counsel individuals (and sometimes their families) about college-readiness and planning for college.
- The origin of the Club is somewhat obscure. In 1920 the Niles Branch of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae (now the AAUW) made an effort to enlist women from neighboring communities into its organization. Between 1922 and 1926 this ACA branch was identified in multiple newspapers and journals by variations of the name "Niles-Buchanan College Club". The "Buchanan College Women's Club" is mentioned in newspapers several times in 1927, and it officially became the "Buchanan College Club" the next year. It has been known by that name ever since.
- The Niles-Buchanan Club awarded "scholarships" to women attending college as early as 1922. It is not always clear, however, if these scholarships were loans or outright grants, as all the early recipients repaid the money advanced them once they graduated and started working. By 1927 the Buchanan organization was hosting fund-raisers to generate money for loans. Even if the Club was only formally organized when its constitution was adopted in November 1928, by February 1929 previously loaned money was due for payment, suggesting that lending activities had been taking place for some time, and probably since 1922.
- scope and content:* The records of the Club consist primarily of minutes of regular meetings, 1928-1987; minutes of Executive Board meetings, 1957-1981; Program, Publicity, and Scholarship Committee records, bulk 1950s-1970s; Senior Honors Banquet files, 1969-2014; and Club Yearbooks, 1942/1943 and 1952/1953 - 2020/2021 (not complete). The Yearbooks include lists of officers, members, and committee assignments, as well as schedules of the year's meetings and programs. Scattered correspondence, mailings, subject files, ephemera, and photographs round out the records.

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- series:* 1. Minute and Record Books
- folder:* 1/1 Minute Book, 1928-1938
Includes two versions of the club's constitution (pages 1-4 and 100-102) and a record of receipts and disbursements, 1928-1934 (pages 50-55).
Occasionally, a set of minutes includes a membership list.
- folder:* 1/2 Minute Book, 1938-1947
Includes annual membership rolls for 1939/1940 through 1946/1947 (pages 164-180).
- folder:* 1/3 Minute Book, 1947-1967
Includes a short list of the deceased members of the club (last page).
- folder:* 1/4 Minute Book, 1967-1987
- folder:* 1/5 Loose Papers Removed from Minute Books: Minutes, 1932, 1982
- folder:* 1/6 Loose Papers Removed from Minute Books: Financial Reports, 1981-1987
- folder:* 1/7 Loose Papers Removed from Minute Books: Miscellany, 1946, 1979, 1981, 1986
- folder:* 1/8 Executive Board Minute Book, 1957-1963
- folder:* 1/9 Executive Board Minutes, 1963-1966
- folder:* 1/10 Executive Board Minute Book, 1966-1975
- folder:* 1/11 Executive Board Minute Book, 1975-1978
- folder:* 1/12 Executive Board Record Book, ca.1958-1981
- folder:* 3/1 Program Committee Record Book, ca.1956-1971
- folder:* 3/2 Program Committee Procedures, early-mid 1970s
- folder:* 3/3 Publicity Committee Record Book, ca.1957-1974
- folder:* 3/4 Publicity Committee Envelope of Loose Clippings, 1961-1964
- folder:* 3/5 Publicity Committee Envelope of Loose Clippings, 1967-1969
- folder:* 3/6 Publicity Scrapbook, 1969-1977
- folder:* 3/7 Scholarship Committee Reports, Loan Fund Reports, and
Lists of Scholarships, 1923-2003 (not complete)
- folder:* 3/8 Scholarship Loan Policy and Applications, 1960s(?)

- series:* 2. Yearbooks
- folder:* 2/1 Yearbooks (Best Set), 1942/1943, 1952/1953 - 1959/1960
- folder:* 2/2 Yearbooks (Best Set), 1960/1961 - 1969/1970
- folder:* 2/3 Yearbooks (Best Set), 1971/1972 - 1978/1979
- folder:* 2/4 Yearbooks (Best Set), 1980/1981 - 1989/1990
- folder:* 2/5 Yearbooks (Best Set), 1990/1991 - 1999/2000
- folder:* 2/6 Yearbooks (Best Set), 2000/2001 - 2006/2007 , 2009/2010
- folder:* 2/7 Yearbooks (Best Set), 2015/2016, 2020/2021
- folder:* 2/8 Loose Papers Removed from Yearbooks, 1961/1962 - 2000/2001
- folder:* 2/9 Yearbooks (Duplicates), 1940s-1950s
Many contain annotations.
- folder:* 2/10 Yearbooks (Duplicates), 1960s
Many contain annotations.
- folder:* 2/11 Yearbooks (Duplicates), 1970s
Many contain annotations.
- folder:* 2/12 Yearbooks (duplicates), 1980s
Many contain annotations.
- folder:* 2/13 Yearbooks (duplicates), 1990s
Many contain annotations.

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- series:* 3. Senior Honors Banquet
- folder:* 3/9 Senior Honors Banquet Programs, 1969-2010s (not complete)
 - folder:* 3/10 Senior Honors Banquet Programs (Duplicates)1970s-2010s (not complete)
 - folder:* 3/11 Senior Honors Banquet Invitations, 1970s-2000s
 - folder:* 3/12 Senior Honors Banquet Clippings, 1957-2011
 - folder:* 3/13-17 Senior Honors Banquet Arrangements Binder, 1957-1985
 - folder:* 3/18 Senior Honors Banquet Arrangements Loose Papers, 1960-1983 (not complete)
 - folder:* 3/15-43 Senior Honors Banquet Arrangements, 1985-2012, 2014
 - folder:* 3/44 Senior Honors Banquet Arrangements Summary Information, 2003-2011

- series:* 4. Miscellaneous Files and Ephemera
- folder:* 3/45 Annual Report Materials for 2012/2013
 - folder:* 3/46 Letters Received, 1970s-2010s
 - folder:* 3/46 Responses Received to May 1973 Breakfast Meeting Invitation
 - folder:* 3/47 Letters Sent, 1950s-2000s
 - folder:* 3/48 Mailings to Members, 1950s-1990s
 - folder:* 3/49 Invitations to Become Members, 1950s(?) - 1980s(?)
 - folder:* 3/50 Membership Survey, 1974 (February - March)
 - folder:* 3/51 Lists of Officers and Committee Assignments, 1970s-1990s
 - folder:* 3/52 Lists of Members, 1940s-1990s
 - folder:* 3/53 Brochures, 2010s
 - folder:* 3/54 Histories and Reminiscences of the Buchanan College Club, 1937(?), 1939, 1960, 1961(?)
 - folder:* 3/55 "Buchanan College Club 1922-1972 Anniversary" Program 10/4/1972
 - folder:* 3/56 Fund Raiser Event Programs, 1952-1954
 - folder:* 3/57 Christmas Dance Program, 1970
 - folder:* 3/58 Dance Committee Reports, 1981 and 1990
 - folder:* 3/59 Christmas Dance Records, 1982
 - folder:* 3/60 Christmas Dance Records, 1983
 - folder:* 3/61 Fund Raiser Event Flyers, 1990s, 2010s
 - folder:* 3/62 College Club Sales Tax Emxemption Letters, late 1990s
 - folder:* 3/63 Miscellany, 1950s - 1960s
 - Includes the criteria for screening candidates for the College Club Honor Award (mid 1960s) and a history of the Velma Dunbar Memorial Book Shelf and a list of deceased College Club members (1954).
 - folder:* 3/64 Clippings, 1950s-1990s
 - folder:* 3/65 Clippings added by LHR Staff, 1920s-2010s

- series:* 5. Photographs
- folder:* photo/1 Senior Honors Banquet Photographs (16), 1960, 1989-1991, 1998-1999
 - Only some of the individuals in the pictures are identified: Laurie Bell and Martha Hughes; Vicky Slucas and Kay Trull; Bryan Tumbleson, Scott Rowen, John Furner, John Wroblewski, Stacey Dodson, Emily Thornton, Heather Armstrong, Pam Reuter, Donia Klyver, Melissa Berberick, Gina Spoke, and Karin Jackson; Sarah Mitchell, Sarah Bagwell, Brian Pruet, Angelina Mitchell, Jauselyn Brown, Zuri Garduno, Sarah Bagwell, Kary Crichman, Nick Powers, Christy Howard, Jay McWilliams, and Lisa Niven; and Scott Rowen and Janet Kuhn.

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- series:* 5. Photographs (continued)
- folder:* photo/2 Senior Honors Banquet Photographs (34 plus dups and negatives), 2002-2003
No individuals are identified on the photographs though several (including Rob Habicht and Fran Terry) are easily recognizable.
- folder:* photo/3 Senior Honors Banquet Photographs (5 plus duplicates), 2008, 2010
Individuals of the BHS Class of 2008 are identified: Lindsey Hollister, Alex Gerard, Kritina Lemon, Darlene Logston, Samantha Waldschmidt, Amanda Brohman, Karla Wright, Ellen Green, Ashley Peterson, Brianne Weldy, Katrina Kourlas, Dulaney Pulliam, Jordan Wahlstrom, Laleigh Rowe, Taylor Krumrie, Samantha Morris, Ciara Myers, Rachel Letcher, Mary Martin, Noelle Kelley, Emily Ross, Collette Rodriquez, Mary Siemon, Melinda Morgan, Stephanie Burns, Aleischa Shephard, Destyni Dolan, Hayley Cashier, Marina Phillips, Tabitha Hipsher, Alexis Reagan, Kayla Nelson, Kaity Bicard, Jon Young, Mitchell Plott, Harper Sulier, Scott Warner, Jeff Kruchkow, Jon Mondschein, Matt Wysinger, Kevin Watson, and Max Gorton.
- folder:* photo/4 Miscellaneous Photographs (4), 1975, n.d.
Three casual snapsots from the College Club's 10/1/1975 Guest Night Dinner Meeting and a snapshot of four unidentified women seated in a living room, no date.