Finding Aid to the Sequoia Club Records

Finding aid prepared by Kim Nguyen
San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library
100 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA, 94102
(415) 557-4567
info@sfpl.org
2011
Title: Sequoia Club Records
Date (inclusive): 1906-1983
Date (bulk): (bulk 1924-1969)
Collection Identifier: SFH 58
Creator: Sequoia Club
Physical Description: 1 carton, 2 flat boxes (3.0 cubic ft.)
Contributing Institution: San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library
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Abstract: Chiefly minutes, membership and financial records, and a scrapbook; together with a small amount of
ephemera, bulletins, and clippings documenting the Sequoia Club's activities from its founding in 1892.
Physical Location: The collection is stored onsite.
Language of Materials: Collection materials are in English.
Access
The collection is open for research. Please call the San Francisco History Center for hours and information at 415-557-4567.
Publication Rights
All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the City Archivist.
Permission for publication is given on behalf of the San Francisco Public Library as the owner of the physical items.
Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Sequoia Club Records (SFH 58), San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library.
Provenance
Gift of Clara Nelson, April 1996.
Conservation Note
During processing, the entire collection was re-folded and re-housed in acid-free folders and boxes. Some metal staples
remain.
Historical note
The Sequoia Club was one of the oldest social clubs in San Francisco, founded in 1892 by seven or eight wives of Bohemian
Club members who wanted to meet together with their husbands to appreciate the arts. At that time, only artists and
writers were allowed; later, a wider range of associates were permitted to join, opening the Club to men and women with
interests and achievements in the creative arts, music, drama, and science. The Sequoia Club was governed by four
officers and five directors. Notable officers and members of the Club included: Senator James D. Phelan, Gertrude Atherton,
Mrs. Fremont Older, Evelyn Wells, Tommy Noonan, Ethel Cotton, Mrs. F. H. Colburn, and Arthur Chamberlin. Other
prominent artists were A. C. Best, Ethel Wickes, Charles Henry Grant, Maynard Dixon, James Holden, Emerson Lewis, Percy
Grey, and Lee Bates. The purpose of the Club was to promote cultural advancement, social activities, and friendship.
Meetings were held each Thursday evening at the California Club Rooms, 1750 Clay Street. Activities included formal
dances, lectures, motion pictures, drama and short plays, art and floral exhibits, annual picnics, golf tournaments, card
parties, costume balls, and special dinners and dances.
Scope and Contents
Chiefly minutes, membership and financial records, and a scrapbook; together with a small amount of ephemera, bulletins,
and clippings documenting the Sequoia Club's activities from its founding in 1892. The scrapbook (1906-1962) contains
mostly bulletins and clippings, with a few photographs, ephemera, and some minutes.
Arrangement
The collection is arranged by type of record, then chronologically within each type.
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Clubs--California--San Francisco.
San Francisco (Calif.)--Social life and customs

Box 1, Folder 1-7 Minutes, 1924-1969
Box 1, Folder 8  Membership Rosters, 1939-1983
Box 1, Folder 9  Membership Cards, A-L, 1921-1983
Box 1, Folder 10 Membership Card, M-Z, 1921-1982
Box 1, Folder 11 Guest and Member Book, 1956-1957
Box 1, Folder 12 Guest Book, 1957-1960
Box 1, Folder 13 Membership Applications and Letterhead, undated
Box 1, Folder 14 Bulletins and Ephemera, 1930-1983
Box 1, Folder 15 Events Notebook, 1960-1961
Box 1, Folder 16 Financial Records (Cash Book), 1931-1933
Box 1, Folder 17 Financial Records (Pass Book), 1931-1960
Box 1, Folder 18 Financial Records (Cash Book), 1942-1943
Box 1, Folder 19 Financial Records (Ledger), 1944-1960
Box 1, Folder 20 Clippings, 1939-1941
Box 1  Silverware, undated
Box 2  Guestbook, 1907-1954
Box 3  Scrapbook, 1906-1962