Finding Aid for the South Pasadena Americanism Center Records, 1948-1990
LSC.1844

UCLA Library Special Collections
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Online finding aid last updated 12 October 2017.
**Title:** South Pasadena Americanism Center records

**Identifier/Call Number:** LSC.1844

**Contributing Institution:** UCLA Library Special Collections

**Language of Material:** English

**Physical Description:** 1.2 linear feet (3 boxes)

**Date (bulk):** Bulk, 1961-1973

**Date (inclusive):** 1948-1990

**Abstract:** The South Pasadena Americanism Center was founded by Jane Crosby in 1961 as a community center where politically conservative Republicans could find support among others with similar beliefs. These records span from 1948 to 1990 and contain correspondence, journal entries, political pamphlets, brochures, meeting minutes, and press and newspaper clippings.

**Language of Materials:** Materials are in English.

**Physical Location:** Stored off-site at SRLF. All requests to access special collections materials must be made in advance through our electronic paging system, using the "Request items" button.

**Creator:** South Pasadena Americanism Center.

**Restrictions on Access**

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Open for research. All requests to access special collections materials must be made in advance through our electronic paging system, using the "Request items" button.

**Conditions on Use and Reproduction**

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**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], South Pasadena Americanism Center records (Collection 1844). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library.

**Provenance/Source of Acquisition**


**Processing Information**

Processed by Kuhelika Ghosh and Rebecca Townsend in 2017 under the supervision of Courtney Dean in the Center for Primary Research and Training (CFPRT).

**General note**

UCLA Catalog Record ID: 8272837

**Biography/History**

The South Pasadena Americanism Center was founded by Jane Crosby in 1961 as a community center where politically conservative Republicans could find support among others with similar beliefs. The Center was run by a group of housewives in the 1960s and provided conservative and anti-communist books which people could read in a safe space. Some of the books included Barry Goldwater’s *The Conscience of a Conservative*, J. Edgar Hoover’s *Masters of Deceit*, and Verna M. Hall’s *Christian History of the Constitution*. Visitors could also register to vote, sign petitions, find out about upcoming lectures, luncheons, workshops and meetings, and sign up to make phone calls and stuff envelopes for Republican candidates. As the perceived threat of communism diminished, the Center shut down in the 1970s.

**Scope and Content**

The records span from 1948 to 1990 and contain materials of and relating to the South Pasadena Americanism Center, including political pamphlets, brochures, press and newspaper clippings, Americanism Center promotional material, founding and instructional documents, publications, editorials, reports (with a focus on American patriotism, Constitutional conservatism, and anticommunism), meeting minutes, resolutions, speeches, and photographs. It also includes material related to Citizens for Constructive Action, a group led by Walter Knott that worked to organize and promote Republican political candidates and the Americanism Center. The daily diaries of the South Pasadena Americanism Center’s founder, Jane Crosby, are also included, and provide unique insight into the day-to-day workings of the organization.

**Organization and Arrangement**

Collection is arranged in original order.
California Republican Assembly Records (Collection 2039) Available at Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.
California State Assembly Republican Caucus Records Available at California State Archives.
California Republican Assembly records (Collection MS-R128) Available at Special Collections and Archives, The UC Irvine Libraries, Irvine, California.
Republican Party (Calif.) records (Collection 2005C44) Available at Hoover Institution Archives.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Republican Party (Calif.).
South Pasadena Americanism Center -- Archives.
California--Politics and government--Archives.

Organizational records 1956-1970
“This is my Country” by Homer H. Bell. 1948-1963
Americanism Center dedication 1967 November 11
Board of Directors minutes 1961-1970
Historical records 1962-1966
Visitor log 1962-1966
Citizens for Constructive Action 1965
Ephemera, clippings and papers relating to the South Pasadena Americanism Center 1962-1990
Jane Crosby’s journals 1962-1965

Scope and Content
Contains four of Jane Crosby’s daily journals from 1962 to 1965, comprising of an assortment of to-do lists, daily meetings and events, and ideas for expanding the Americanism Center further.