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The Trenton Club Records (1892-2013)

**By Ellen R. Callahan
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Institutional History

The roots of the Trenton Club are found in the establishment of the Trenton Bicycle Club in 1884. As the name describes, this was a group dedicated to the emerging sport of cycling. In 1887, members reorganized as the Trenton Wheelman, and continued their emphases on cycling until 1892. On June 2nd of that year, members filed papers with the Mercer County Clerk to be incorporated as the Trenton Club, a group that was “associated for social, individual, and recreative purposes.”

During its early years, the club was headquartered in a variety of rented rooms centered near the State House at 125 West State Street. In 1909, they purchased a building at 36 West State Street. In 1923 they moved to one of the Roebling Mansions at 211 West State Street. Finally, in 1962, the Trenton Club settled into their new home at 479 West State Street.

The purpose-built club house included squash courts with shower and locker facilities, private meeting rooms, a bar, card room, a banquet room, and a professional kitchen. Eventually, exercise equipment was added to the facility, as well as overnight accommodations which could be used by members for visiting guests or by reciprocal club members which included 60 clubs in 23 states. Breakfast and lunch were served, club dinners and banquets were held, and the facilities could be rented by outside entities sponsored by one or more club members. A general manager coordinated with the Board of Governors to run the facility and oversee the staff.

This was an exclusive, invitation-only club, with prospective members selected and voted on by the members; objections from just two were enough to strike a name. In its earliest years, members included local business owners, bankers, and lawyers. Membership lists recall familiar Trenton and Mercer County names including Blackwell, Hutchinson, Katzenbach, Kuser, Loth, Moore, Nevius,

Pearson, Roebing, Royal, Schwarzkopf, Stokes, Switlick, Welling, and Whitehead. Like many clubs of this kind, this is where networking and deal-making took place at business lunches, card and squash games or a quiet drink after work.

Although initially a men's only facility, there were activities and outings where wives and families were invited to participate. Most prominently these included special black tie dinners, holiday parties, annual picnics, theater trips and club-sponsored vacations.

In 1946, a group of Trenton Club members formed a private club within the club and called themselves the Trenton Club Investors (TCI). TCI members pooled information on sound investments which they would make together and then share in the profits and/or losses. Their membership was limited to 25, all of whom were Trenton Club members, and were selected by TCI members by secret ballot. Judging from the surviving records, TCI remained active until at least 1979. In two undated flyers in the collection (ca. 1980s) there was a call to start the club again, but there is no evidence that this occurred. Members included George Arnett, Eddie Bryant, Joe Comly, Charlie Gilbert, Crawford Jamieson, Fuzzy Jessup, Sam Kerr, Hank Moore, Bill Reynolds, Paul Starkey, Jr., and Phil Tatler.

Part of the exclusivity of the Club meant that there were caps on total membership (1910: 75; 1919: 100; 1936-1990: 200), but eventually it became increasingly important (and difficult) to recruit members. This led to several aggressive membership drives to encourage younger members, and eventually the decision to open membership to women in 1990. By its 110th anniversary in 1994, leaders boasted that their membership included "accountants, physicians, real estate, retail and insurance executives," as well as "women and African-American business leaders."

By 2002, as the core membership aged, income decreased and the cost of maintaining the aging facility continued to rise, discussions about selling the Club House and relocating began in earnest. Negotiations were held with the Trenton YMCA about combining with them in a new building, however, nothing came of this and after surviving for 126 years, the Trenton Club closed its doors in 2010. In 2013, the building was purchased by the General Baptist Convention of New Jersey for \$350,000. Before vacating the building, members donated the documents, photographs and memorabilia found in this collection to the Trenton Public Library's Trentoniana Department.

Scope and Content Notes

This collection contains minutes, by-laws, written histories, correspondence, photographs, some audio-visual material, financial records, and a few artifacts which document the creation and operation of the Trenton Club. While the bulk of the collection covers the 1960s to 2008, some of the early financial records, minutes of the Trenton Club Investors and written histories help provide some information about the financing, governance and culture of the Club in its earliest years.

This collection will be of interest to those researching private clubs, men's clubs, and the business leaders of Trenton in the 20th and into the 21st centuries.

The collection consists of 24 boxes, 1 mounted photograph and Honor Roll of Members Serving in the Armed Forces poster housed in separate oversized flat folders, and 7 oversized loose items. The material is divided into 15 series as described below.

Series Description

Series 1. Incorporation, Constitution, By-laws, 1892-1991 and Policy Manual, ca. 1987-2003

This series consist of a transcript of the Club's 1892 incorporation, and copies of its Constitution and By-laws, undated, 1910-1936 [with gaps], 1990 and 1991. Also included is a policy manual which consist of memos, and minutes documenting policy decisions regarding membership, finances, employees, etc.

Series 2. Treasurer's [Annual] Reports, 1919-2005

This a series of annual financial statements which report the Club's receipts, disbursements, assets, and liabilities. Beginning in 1932, the statements also begin listing officers and members of the Club. While reports for some years are missing, financial information is nearly complete since beginning in 1927, the reports include comparison figures for one or two previous years. Treasurer's Reports are not available for the following years: 1920-1923, 1946, 1955-9158, 1964, and 1991. For more detailed financial information, researchers should see **Series 10. Financial Records** described below.

Series 3. Minutes, 1961-2009

This series consists of an incomplete set of minutes of the Clubs' Board of Governors' monthly and special meetings, as well as minutes of the annual meeting held in April of each year. Although formats varied through the years, generally there were reports given by the Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Committee Chairman, Entertainment Committee Chairman and House Chairman. There are often attachments, including budgetary analysis and balance sheets. There are major gaps in these minutes which do not begin until 1961. There are no minutes for 2010, when the Board voted to dissolve the Club.

Series 4. Membership, 1891-2009

This series consists of various sub-series of documents relating to the heart of the Club, its membership. Included are membership lists dating as early as 1891 and then from 1963-2009; applications, resignation letters, letters of invitation and acceptance, etc., dating from 1979 to 2009. There are also members' oaths dating from 1996 to 2001, filed alphabetically by surname. Finally, there are individual accounts which track payments of dues as well as for meals, drinks, and special events. The earliest of these is one sheet from a ledger dating 1938 to 1939. The next set of accounts cover 1962 to 1968 and then another begins in about 1982 and continues to 1987. Both ledgers have been disbound and are arranged alphabetically by member surname. From 1987 to 1996, accounts were kept on Accounts Receivable cards which are arranged alphabetically by surname. Researchers should note that **Treasurer's [Annual] Reports, 1919-2005** found in box 2, folder 2, include the names of officers and members beginning in 1932.

Series 5. Employees, 1968-2002

Apart from a small amount of correspondence dating from between 1973 to 2002, this series consists of Club employee payroll information including wages, hours worked, as well as federal and state taxes withheld. From 1969 to September 1978, these records were kept in payroll books. In October of 1978, information was kept on payroll ledger sheets that were filled by year. There are none for the years 1983 to 1986 and these records end in 1987. For 1968 and 1978-1984, there are Payroll Card forms used to track this information on a quarterly basis. Because the Payroll Cards include Social Security numbers, they are confidential.

Series 6. Trenton Club Investors, 1941-ca. 1980s

This series consist of several scattered records of the Trenton Club Investors. Included is a booklet published on their 5th anniversary that includes a “digest” of minutes dating from 1941 to 1945 and a 1944 amended copy of their constitution. There are also minutes dating from 1961 to 1970, statements of condition [records of cash balances, securities owed and accounts receivable] dating from 1956 to 1969; correspondence from 1955 to 1979 and miscellaneous material including the 1941 membership certificate of George W. Arnett.

Series 7. Correspondence, 1954-2009

The types of correspondence in this collection varies from year to year and sometimes crosses over into materials found in membership correspondence such as invitations to join, letters of resignation, etc. In general, however, this series include notices regarding individuals being considered as members, notes on upcoming meetings or events, reminders regarding payments of dues and compliance with Club rules, encouragement to seek potential new members, and information about budgetary concerns. Correspondence may also be found regarding Club House maintenance, and in 1961 and 1962 the building of the Club House at 479 West State Street. There is no correspondence in this series before 1954, nothing for 1997 or 1998 and only scattered material in the 2000s.

Series 8. Events, 1982-2009

This series consists of scattered yearly and monthly calendars tracking events as well as copies of flyers and notices providing details and deadlines for upcoming dinners, parties, or excursions.

Series 9. Menus, 1970s-2000s

This series includes menus for banquets held for holiday celebration, annual meetings and new members dating 1989-1990 and 1993. There are also copies of lunch menus from the 1970s to the 2000s as well as examples of three types of menu covers.

Series 10. Financial Records, 1906-2009

Records for the Club’s finances, though incomplete, are perhaps the most extensive of all the records in this collection. Although their format changes over the years, the data collected was generally the same: monthly income vs. monthly expenses. The earliest of these records is a small

ledger of Debits and Credits dating from April of 1906 to February 1911. Records begin again in 1943 in the form of Financial Statements which include monthly income and expense statements as well as balance sheets which compare the current month's accounts to the same month of the previous year. This format continues through 1957. Beginning in 1957, financial information was recorded in yearly ledgers of Sales, Receipts, Disbursements which continued until at least 1987, which is the last ledger found in this series. There were none found for the years from 1977 to 1986. Finally, there is a sub-series of Comparative Statements which compare the current month's accounts to the same month of the previous year as was done in the Financial Statements. Copies of these documents were also sometimes found with the minutes. For summary financial information, researchers should see **Series 2. Treasurer's [Annual] Reports** described above.

Series 11. Member Loans, 1990-2002

This series consist of records of loans to the Club made directly by members. These loans were arranged in lieu of seeking bank loans to make capital improvements at the Club and to balance an increasingly precarious financial situation. Documentation includes an agreement with Thomas N. Loser made in April of 1990 as well as information regarding promissory notes issued to members in 1994, 1999 and 2000; interest payments made in 1994 and 1995, and requests to extend loan due dates in 1998.

Series 12. Subject Files, 1919-2008

This series includes information on a variety of subjects as listed below. Of note are histories of the Club (Box 12, file 8); news clippings (Box 12, file 14); and Trenton Club Newsletter, 2006-2008 (Box 12, file 19).

Series 13. Photographs, 1900s-2008

This series consist of 700 photographic prints dating from the 1900s to 2008, with the majority dating from the 1960s to the 2000s. Subjects include annual meeting banquets, holiday parties, lawn parties, picnics, squash racquet tournaments, golf outings, club vacations, formal portraits of club members, candid shots of staff, as well interior and exteriors of the Club House at 479 West State Street and exteriors of Club House at 24 East State Street and 211 West State Street [see box 13]. Formats include 3.5" x 4" Polaroid color prints, and color and black & white prints measuring 3"x 4", 3.5"x 5", 4"x 6", and 8"x 10" which are stored in four boxes. There is also a photograph memorializing the Trenton Investors Club trip to Bermuda in 1946 with accompanying newspaper stories mounted on a 14"x 18" board which has been placed in an oversized flat folder.

Series 14. Audio Visual Material, 1934-1992

This series consists of four 7" 16mm films (undated, 1934, 1949-1950 and 1952) as well as two VHS tapes (ca. 1991 and 1992). Three of the films record fishing trips and the fourth has no conclusive identifying information. The 1992 VHS film records "Trenton Club Sewer Line, July 31, 1992." Of most interest, is the ca. 1991 film which is a non-professional production that gives an overview of The Trenton Club showing scenes of dinners, barbeques, bridge and badminton games, squash matches, the exercise room with equipment in use, and close-ups of members enjoying

themselves. This is followed by a "roast" of Bill Sheehy (member of the Trenton Club and President of the Symposium Club¹ which met monthly at the Trenton Club for decades) with Walt Wallen as master of ceremonies, and many members telling stories and jokes [approx. 1 hour, 20 minutes in length].

Series 15. Artifacts

This series contains commemorative/trophy bowls, wall plaques, mugs of the Investors, card games, gavels, drink tokens, sun visors, an incomplete set of silverware, and other miscellaneous material. There is one ceramic table lamp with the City of Trenton seal in gold. There is also a large wooden squash "ladder" board measuring (34"x 25") which includes metal tags with players' names, wooden wall plaques (18"x 28") commemorating the Invitational Squash Racquets Tournament Champions from 1932 to 1998.

Container List

Series 1. Incorporation, Constitution and By-laws

Box / Folder / Contents

- 1 / 1 Incorporation, 1892 [transcript]; Constitution and Rules, 1910, 1919, 1925 and 1936; By-laws, undated, 1990 and 1991.
- 2.a / 3 Policy Manual, ca. 1987-2003

Series 2. Treasurer's [Annual] Reports

- 1 / 2 1919-2005

Series 3. Minutes

- 1 / 3 April 1961 - December 1964
- 1 / 4 January 1965 - December 1968
- 1 / 5 April 1973 - December 1979
- 1 / 6 January 1980 - December 1983
- 1 / 7 January 1984 - November 1987
- 1 / 8 January 1988 - December 1989
- 1 / 9 January - November 1990
- 2 / 1 January 1991 - December 1993; March 1994
- 2 / 2 February - December 1995
- 2 / 3 January - November 1996
- 2 / 4 January 1997 - December 2000
- 2 / 5 January & February 2001, February - December 2003
- 2 / 6 January - October 2004; December 2005
- 2 / 7 January - December 2006

¹ The Symposium Club of Trenton is a fraternal group formed in 1904 to explore "intellectual interests." For decades they held their monthly dinner meetings at the Trenton Club. For more information see other Symposium-related items in the Trentoniana Department.

Series 3. Minutes (cont'd)

Box / Folder / Contents

- 2 / 8 January - November 2007
- 2 / 9 March - October 2008; May and September 2009

Series 4. Membership

- 2 / 10 Membership Committee Minutes, 1991-1994
- 2 / 11 Membership Lists, undated, 1891 & 1963 - 1989 [with gaps]
- 2.a / 1 Membership Lists, 1990 - 2009 [with gaps]
- 2.a / 2 Applications, etc. [no dates]
- 3 / 1 Applications, etc. 1979
- 3 / 2 Applications, etc. - Complete, 1981-1984
- 3 / 3 Applications, etc. - Pending, 1981-1984
- 3 / 4 Applications, etc. - Resignations, 1981-1984
- 3 / 5 Applications, etc. - General Correspondence, 1981-1984
- 3 / 6 Applications, etc., 1985 & 1986
- 3 / 7 Applications, etc., 1987
- 3 / 8 Applications, etc., 1988
- 3 / 9 Applications, etc., 1989
- 3 / 10 Applications, etc., 1990
- 3 / 11 Applications, etc., 1991
- 3 / 12 Applications, etc., 1992
- 3 / 13 Applications, etc., 1993
- 3 / 14 Applications, etc., 1994
- 3 / 15 Applications, etc., 1995
- 3 / 16 Applications, etc., January - June 1996
- 4 / 1 Applications, etc., July - November 1996
- 4 / 2 Applications, etc., 1997-1999, 2001-2002
- 4 / 3 Applications, etc., 2003
- 4 / 4 Applications, etc., 2004
- 4 / 5 Applications, etc., 2005
- 4 / 6 Applications, etc., 2006
- 4 / 7 Applications, etc., 2007
- 4 / 8 Applications, etc., 2008-2009
- 4 / 9 Member's Oaths, 1996-2001: A-H
- 4 / 10 Member's Oaths, 1996-2001: I-Z
- 4 / 11 New Members and In Memoriam notices, 1975 - 2009 [with gaps]
- 4 / 12 Miscellaneous material
- 5 / 1 Individual accounts ledger, 1938-1939; miscellaneous accounts, 1966-1968, 1974-1983, 1985-1987
- 5 / 2 Individual accounts ledger, ca. 1962-1968
- 5 / 3 Individual accounts ledger, ca. 1982-1987: A-G

Series 4. Membership (cont.)

Box / Folder / Contents

- 5 / 4 Individual accounts ledger, ca. 1982-1987: H-O
- 5 / 5 Individual accounts ledger, ca. 1982-1987: L-Z
- 5 / 6 Individual accounts - Uncollected accounts written off, ca. 1987-1989
- 5 / 7 Individual accounts, ca. 1987-1986: A-B
- 5 / 8 Individual accounts, ca. 1987-1986: C-G
- 5 / 9 Individual accounts, ca. 1987-1986: H-L
- 6 / 1 Individual accounts, ca. 1987-1986: M-R
- 6 / 2 Individual accounts, ca. 1987-1986: S-Z

Series 5. Employees

- 6 / 3 Correspondence, memoranda - undated, 1973-2002 [with gaps]
- 6 / 4 Payroll Books, 1969 & 1967
- 6 / 5 Payroll Books, 1971 & 1972
- 6 / 6 Payroll Books, 1973 & 1974
- 6 / 7 Payroll Books, 1975, 1976-1977 & 1978
- 7 / 1 Payroll yearly folders: 1978
- 7 / 2 Payroll yearly folders: 1979
- 7 / 3 Payroll yearly folders: 1980
- 7 / 4 Payroll yearly folders: 1981
- 7 / 5 Payroll yearly folders: 1982
- 7 / 6 Payroll yearly folders: 1987
- 7 / 7 Payroll Cards - Confidential: 1968
- 7 / 8 Payroll Cards - Confidential: 1978
- 7 / 9 Payroll Cards - Confidential: 1979
- 7 / 10 Payroll Cards - Confidential: 1980
- 7 / 11 Payroll Cards - Confidential: 1981
- 7 / 12 Payroll Cards - Confidential: 1982
- 7 / 13 Payroll Cards - Confidential: 1983
- 7 / 14 Payroll Cards - Confidential: 1984

Series 6. Trenton Club Investors

- 7 / 15 Minutes [selected], 1941-1946
- 7 / 16 Minutes, 1961-1970
- 7 / 17 Articles of Association Amended, March 25, 1947
- 7 / 18 Statement of Condition [account of cash, holdings, etc.], 1956-1969
- 7 / 19 Correspondence, 1955-1979
- 7 / 20 Member lists, undated & 1965
- 7 / 21 Miscellaneous material, 1941, 1946, 1963 and ca. 19870s

Series 7. Correspondence

- 8 / 1 1954-1959
- 8 / 2 1961-1965
- 8 / 3 1966-1969
- 8 / 4 1970-1974
- 8 / 5 1975
- 8 / 6 1976-1979
- 8 / 7 1980
- 8 / 8 1981-1983
- 8 / 9 1984-1987
- 8 / 10 1988-1989
- 9 / 1 1990
- 9 / 2 1991-1992
- 9 / 3 1993-1996, 1999
- 9 / 4 2000-2009 [with gaps]

Series 8. Events

- 9 / 5 Yearly Calendars, 1986-2006 [with gaps]
- 9 / 6 Monthly Calendars, 1982-1985
- 9 / 7 Notices, Flyers, etc., undated & 1990-2009

Series 9. Menus

- 9 / 8 General, ca. 1970s-2000s
- 9 / 9 Banquets, undated, 1989-1990 and 1993
- 9 / 10 Menu Covers

Series 10. Financial Statements

- 10 / 1 Debits and Credits, April 1906 - February 1911
- 10 / 2 Financial Statements, 1943
- 10 / 3 Financial Statements, 1944
- 10 / 4 Financial Statements, 1945
- 10 / 5 Financial Statements, 1946
- 10 / 6 Financial Statements, 1947
- 10 / 7 Financial Statements, 1948
- 10 / 8 Financial Statements, 1949
- 10 / 9 Financial Statements, 1950
- 10 / 10 Financial Statements, 1951
- 10 / 11 Financial Statements, 1952
- 10 / 12 Financial Statements, 1953
- 10 / 13 Financial Statements, 1954
- 10 / 14 Financial Statements, 1955
- 10 / 15 Financial Statements, 1956
- 10 / 16 Financial Statements, 1957
- OS1 / 1 Journal, December 1957-December 1976
- OS1 / 2 Accounts Received, Amounts Payable, 1957
- OS1 / 3 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1958
- OS1 / 4 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1959
- OS1 / 5 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1960

Series 10. Financial Statements (cont.)

Box / Folder / Contents

- OS1 / 6 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1961
- OS1 / 7 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1962
- OS1 / 8 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1963
- OS2 / 1 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1965
- OS2 / 2 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1966
- OS2 / 3 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1967
- OS2 / 4 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1968
- OS2 / 5 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1969
- OS2 / 6 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1970
- OS3 / 1 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1971
- OS3 / 2 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1972
- OS3 / 3 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1973
- OS3 / 4 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1974
- OS3 / 5 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1975
- OS3 / 6 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1976
- OS3 / 7 Sales, Receipts, Disbursements, 1987; Journal, 1986-1987
- 11 / 1 Comparative Statements, 1967
- 11 / 2 Comparative Statements, 1968
- 11 / 3 Comparative Statements, 1969
- 11 / 4 Comparative Statements, 1970
- 11 / 5 Comparative Statements, 1971
- 11 / 6 Comparative Statements, 1973
- 11 / 7 Comparative Statements, 1974
- 11 / 8 Comparative Statements, 1975
- 11 / 9 Comparative Statements, 1976
- 11 / 10 Comparative Statements, 1977
- 11 / 11 Comparative Statements, 1978
- 11 / 12 Comparative Statements, 1984
- 11 / 13 Comparative Statements, 1985
- 11 / 14 Comparative Statements, 1987
- 11 / 15 Comparative Statements, 1989
- 11 / 16 Comparative Statements, 2000
- 11 / 17 Comparative Statements, 2007
- 11 / 18 Comparative Statements, 2008
- 11 / 19 Miscellaneous Loose Reports and Notes , 1974-2009 [with gaps]

Series 11. Loans from Members

- 11 / 20 Loans from members: Thomas N. Loser Loan Agreement, 4/26/1990
- 11 / 21 Loans from members: Correspondence regarding issuing 1994 Promissory Notes, 1994-2002
- 11 / 22 Loans from members: Obligations to purchase 1994 Promissory Notes, May 1994
- 11 / 23 Loans from members: Interest payments, undated and 1994-1995
- 11 / 24 Loans from members: Request to extend due date of 1994 Promissory Notes, 10/2/1998
- 11 / 25 Loans from members: Promissory Notes issued, 1994, 1999 and 2000

Series 11. Loans from Members (cont'd)

Box / Folder / Contents

11 / 26 Loans from members: Lists of note holders, ca. 1994 - 2000

Series 12. Subject Files

11 / 27 Acuff Memorial Squash Racquet Tournament - undated, 1998-1999 (with gaps)
11 / 28 Annual Meeting Programs, 1901, 1904, 1985-2009 [with gaps]
12 / 1 Bridge [newspaper clippings on card game and dust jacket for book written by Trenton native Hy Levinthal], 1960s
12 / 2 Caricatures of club members by Bob Miele, 2002-2006 [rarely includes surnames; arranged alphabetically by given names]
12 / 3 Catering agreements, 1991-1995
12 / 4 Club notices, blank membership cards
12 / 5 Cost cutting ideas, 1991
12 / 6 Dues and charges, 2000s
12 / 7 Facilities and Privileges, ca. 1980s-2002
12 / 8 History of the club, 1960 -2009
12 / 9 Humor - includes undated cartoons and anecdotes as well as joke newspapers dated 5/9/1934 and 4/4/1908
12 / 10 Liquor license, 1977-2005 [with gaps]
12 / 11 Members Business Card Directory, ca. 2000s
12 / 12 Membership - Certificate Program, 1996
12 / 13 Membership development, undated and 1996-2005
12 / 14 New Facility Planning, 2002-2005
12 / 15 News clippings, 1990-2013 [with gaps]
12 / 16 Promotional material, ca. 1980-1990
12 / 17 Reciprocal Clubs
12 / 18 Stationary [samples with club shield]
12 / 19 Taxes, 1974-1989 [with gaps]
12 / 20 Trenton Club Newsletter, April 2006 - July 2008 [with gaps]

Series 13. Photographs

Box Contents

13 Sizes up to 8.5"x 10"

14 Sizes up to 4"x 6"

15 Sizes up to 4"x 6"

16 Sizes up to 3.5"x 5"

-- Trenton Investors Club trip to Bermuda in 1946 with accompanying newspaper stories [mounted on a 14"x18" board which has been placed in an oversized flat folder]

Series 14. Audio Visual Material

Box Contents

17 7" 16mm film:

Trenton Club (PC02)

Trenton Club, Fishing, 1934

Trenton Club, Fishing, 1949-1950

Trenton Club, Fishing, 1952 (PC01)

Series 14. Audio Visual Material (cont'd)

Box 17 Contents

VHS tape:

Trenton Club Sewer Line, July 31, 1992 [approx. 10 minutes]

Trenton Club & [William] Sheehy, c. 1991 [approx. 1 hour, 20 minutes]

Series 15. Artifacts

Box Contents

18 Wooden wall plaque [9.5"x 12"] Honoring Ferdinand W. Roebling III for 70 years of service, 4/30/2002

Wooden wall plaque [6"x 8"] C. Shelley Acuff Memorial Squash Racquets Tournament, November 3-5, 1989 [2 items]

Wooden wall plaque [8.5"x 10.5"] C. Shelly Acuff Memorial Squash Racquets Tournament: sanctioned by the USSRA [United States Squash Racquets Association], Founded in 1973 [includes photograph of Acuff]

Wooden Wall Plaque [6"x 8"] Mission Statement Plaque provided by James A. DeBold, James J. Rose, Thomas N. Loser and David B. Thompson

Drink Tokens: 1-1/2" wooden tokens with TC on one side and "Good for One Drink" and image of wine glass on the other

Plastic Tokens [drink tokens or poker chips?]: 7/8" white plastic tokens with TC on either side

Box OS4

Games: Wooden wallet-type cases with cards, numbered 1-16 [#2 is missing] in a sliding drawer from a cabinet

U.S. Duplicate Whist game boards (1-12)

Wooden tennis racquet frame with "Lane" written in pencil

Tabletop sign, white plastic – "Honor Bar – Please sign chit"

Gavel, Black Rock Gun Club, 1947-1972 with labeled names, presumably of the club presidents

Silverware, Trenton seal stamped on handles: iced tea spoon (1), shrimp fork (1), butter knife (2), tablespoon (4), dessert fork (5)

Silverware, TC stamped on handles; fork (1 each, 2 different patterns); fork (5) & shrimp fork (1)

Box OS5

Bowls:

Silverplate: Central N.J. Squash Racquets Assn., 1967-1981; Squash Racquets Club Champion, 1974-1975; Paddle Racquets Senior Championship, 1974-1975
Lenox: Invitational, 1974-1975
Cloth sun visors (2) with Trenton Club 1884 and with club shield

Tatler of Trenton Plate:

Trenton Club Investors Plate with Member's signatures (Acc. 2024.002)

Gavels:

Trenton Club Investors (gavel band)
Trenton Club Investors, Nov. 1941-1961

Various Locations as noted.

Mugs, Trenton Club Investors (1946)
Kerney, Jim Jr. [**Box OS5**]
Kerney, John [**Box OS5**]
Mott, Harding [**Box OS4**]
Roebing, Ferd [in research room]
Stokes, Charlie Jr. [**Box OS4**]
Wetzel, Ene [in research room]

Oversized items not in boxes:

Ceramic table lamp, cream with maroon and gold trim, with the City of Trenton seal in gold; total height 22-1/2" (base 12" high, 6" diameter). Maroon cardboard shade, 8-1/2" high, 15" diameter.

Wooden wall plaques [5] (18"x 28"): Invitational Squash Racquets Tournament Champions 1932-1951; 1974-1984; 1985-1994; 1995-1998; Class B Champions, 1974-1985

"Trenton Club Squash Ladder" - 34"x 25" board with the metal tags being 1-1/2" in diameter metal tags with players names. [Accession 2018.16]

Trenton Club Mission Statement - 24"x 18" brass plate that had been bolted to wall

Provenance

The bulk of this material was transferred by surviving members of the Club in 2013; the squash board came in 2018 and was added as Accession 2018.16.

Processing Notes

During processing every attempt was made to maintain the order of material as found. When this was not possible, material was arranged and inventoried in the most useful way for researchers. Duplicates of material have not been retained.

Restrictions

In **Series 5. Employees**, there are Payroll Card forms housed in Box 7, folders 7-14 that include Social Security numbers. These folders have been marked as confidential.

Bibliography

Brill, Frank J. "Trenton Club Marks 110 Years." *Mercer Business*, ca. May 1994.

Calogero, Caroline. "Wanted: good company and learned discussion." *The Times of Trenton*, November 20, 2004.

Duffy, Erin. "Library becomes caretaker of Trenton Club's history." *The Times of Trenton*, January 19, 2013.

Trenton Club 100th Anniversary Dinner and Annual Meeting, April 25, 1985 [meeting program]

Updated 18 August 2021