Woman’s Humane League of Lancaster County Records
MS 46

Summary Information

Creator
Woman's Humane League of Lancaster County
Humane League of Lancaster County

Title
Woman’s Humane League of Lancaster County Records

Dates
1917-1997, 1917-1985 (bulk)

Extent
1.75 LF (4 ms. boxes)

Arrangement
Collection organized into four series: Administrative records (minutes), Publications, Photographs, Publicity materials (newspaper clippings).

Language of Materials
All materials in English.

Abstract
This collection contains the administrative, outreach, and publicity records of the Woman's Humane League of Lancaster County, a non-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of cruelty to, and care of, children, girls, aged persons, and animals within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In more recent years, the mission of the Humane League of Lancaster County has been to ensure the health, happiness and welfare of domesticated animals in Lancaster County. Strengths of the collection include comprehensive minutes and financial records of the organization, and an extensive run of organizational newsletters. Additional strengths include a lengthy run of newspaper clippings from the 1950s through the 1980s.
Subjects
Humane League of Lancaster County.
Woman's Humane League of Lancaster County.
Animal welfare--Societies, etc.--Pennsylvania--Lancaster County.
Charities--Pennsylvania--Lancaster County.

Administrative Information
Acquisition Information
Humane League of Lancaster County, Lancaster, PA, Gift, 2006.

Custodial History (Provenance)
Materials in this collection were originally deposited with the archives in 2002 by F&M professor Louise Stevenson. The collection was officially given to the archives by the Humane League of Lancaster County in April 2006.

Access Restrictions
Access unrestricted.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use
Photocopying and publication restricted by copyright. Permission to publish must be secured from the repository and copyright holder.

Preferred Citation
Woman's Humane League of Lancaster County Records (MS 46), Archives and Special Collections, Franklin and Marshall College.

Processing Information
Processed by Christopher Raab, May 2006. Description based on DACS.

Accruals
Further accruals are expected.

Additional Information
Location of Originals
This collection contains a facsimile copy of the original 1917-1934 minute book for the Woman's Humane League. The original can be found at the Lancaster County Historical Society in their Minute Books and Ledgers Collection.

Related Materials
Lancaster County SPCA Records (MS 71), Archives and Special Collections, Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, PA

Historical/Biographical Information
On May 3, 1917, Miss Maud Haldeman,(1874-1931) along with seventeen other women, met with John B. Graybill, a noted Lancaster attorney. The result of their meeting was the formation of the Woman’s Humane League of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The purpose of the organization was a follows:
“This Corporation is founded for the prevention of cruelty to, and care of, children, girls, aged persons, and animals within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and to enforce all laws enacted by the Pennsylvania legislature or by Congress for the protection of the children, girls, aged persons and animals.”

For twenty years complaints were investigated and resolved, but there was no shelter available for homeless animals. Beginning in 1937, animals were housed in kennels in Columbia, and then at the Fairgrounds in Lancaster (located on the Harrisburg Pike, next to Long’s Park). Subsequent locations for the shelter were on Letort Road and New Danville Pike.

As early as 1935, cases of cruelty towards children were reported to the women of the Women’s Humane League, but after Social Service agencies began to address the problems facing children, girls and aged persons, The Woman’s Humane League of Lancaster County devoted all of its time and efforts to animal welfare.

A “Men’s Advisory Committee” was formed in 1946 to assist the ladies, and beginning with the minutes of the 1947 annual meeting the word “Woman’s“ was omitted from the league’s name, and the name was later changed to the Humane League of Lancaster County. In 1948 the first man was accepted as an officer of the Board of Directors, Warren Broome, and First Vice-President. In 1980, Warren Broom’s niece, Mary Jane Kroll, was elected as the First Vice-President. During her tenure on the Board, she served as President, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer.

The property at 2195 Lincoln Hwy. East was purchased in 1956 from Jack E. Cooke Kennels. The League’s office was located in the rear room of the house until 1974, when the shelter building was completed.

In 1974, Joyce H. Witmer was the first woman authorized to carry a badge as an Investigator of cruelty complaints in Lancaster County, and she later served as the Board of Director’s Corresponding Secretary and a member of the Board for many years.

In 1988 a capital campaign fun, “Building for the Animals” resulted in a new infirmary for the animals, a remodeled reception area, an isolation area for sick animals and a get acquainted room where people could meet potential new pets, and addition office space on the second floor of the shelter building as added.

In 1997 major shelter renovations and improvements increased the comfort and safety for the animals and expanded service areas for customers and visitors. In 2001 the shelter opened a new Cat Adoption Center, featuring state of the art cat colony housing and improved care areas for felines and small mammals.

(History taken from Humane League website: http://www.humaneleague.com)

Scope and Content Note
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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In more recent years, the mission of the Humane League of Lancaster County has been to ensure the health, happiness and welfare of domesticated animals in Lancaster County.

Strengths of the collection include comprehensive minutes and financial records of the organization, and an extensive run of organizational newsletters. Additional strengths include a lengthy run of newspaper clippings from the 1950s through the 1980s.

**Inventory/Contents**

**Series 1 – Administrative Records**
Box/Folder
1/1 Charter, By-Laws & Early History
1/2 Minutes, 1917-1934
1/3 Minutes, 1934-1954
1/4 Minutes, 1954-1957
1/5 Minutes, 1958-1963
1/6 Minutes, 1973-1974
1/7 Minutes, 1975-1976
2/1 Minutes, 1977-1978
2/2 Minutes, 1979-1980
2/3 Minutes, 1981-1982
2/4 Minutes, 1983-1985
2/5 Minutes, 1990-1996

**Series 2 – Publications, Features & Events**
Box/Folder
3/1 Appreciation Letters, 1982-1990
3/2 Miscellaneous Publications
3/3 Newsletters, 1975-1996
3/5 Staff & Volunteer Features

**Series 3 – Photographs**
Box/Folder
3/6 Photographs, Awards Night, 1984
3/7 Photographs, Awards Night, 1985
3/8 Photographs, Booksale, 1983
3/9 Photographs, Flag Raising Ceremony
3/10 Photographs, Horse Show, 1984
3/12 Photographs, Protest, Animal medical use, 1984
3/13 Photographs, Shelter & Animals
3/14 Photographs, Staff & Volunteers
3/15 Photographs, Window Displays

**Series 4 – Publicity**
Box/Folder
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<tr>
<td>4/6</td>
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<td>1986</td>
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