



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

National Photographic Society Records

NMAH.AC.0681

Alison Oswald

2003

Archives Center, National Museum of American History
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	National Photographic Society Records
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0681
Date:	1942-1986
Extent:	3.5 Cubic feet (10 boxes)
Creator:	Revenue Camera Club Schroeder, Barbara National Photographic Society
Language:	English
Summary:	Collection documents the National Photographic Society, an amateur camera club in Washington, D.C.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Collection donated by Ms. Barbara Schroeder, February 12, 1999.

Ownership and Custodial History

The donor, Barbara Schroeder, a past secretary of the club, acquired the organization's papers after it was dissolved.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Alison Oswald, 2003.

Preferred Citation

National Photographic Society Records, 1942-1986, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

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Biographical / Historical

The Revenue Camera Club was organized in Washington, D.C. on March 14, 1938. It changed its name to The National Photographic Society (NPS) on April 1, 1943. It became affiliated with the Greater Washington Council of Camera Clubs and the Photographic Society of America. The NPS was incorporated in 1944 with a constitution and by-laws as a "non-profit organization under the provisions of Chapter 5 of the Code of the District of Columbia for the promotion of art and science of photography in all its various branches, through individual memberships, associated camera clubs and other photographic organizations, research and the dissemination of photographic knowledge and the promotion of photographic salons and exhibitions." The management of the society was vested in a board of trustees that was made up of nine members. The club held meetings in each other's homes, church basements or at the Mt. Pleasant or Georgia Avenue libraries where they showed member's prints and eventually held meetings at the Arts Club of Washington. The club dissolved in 1986.

Scope and Contents

The Executive Records, 1944-1978, consist of copies and drafts of the constitution, by-laws, correspondence, and the Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes. The Treasurer Records, 1956-1973, include bank account information that deals with authorization to open an organizational bank account, correspondence about monies collected and expenses incurred and the treasurer's annual reports that document receipts, disbursements, and special activities. The Membership Records, 1945-1984, contain directories (with mailing addresses and telephone numbers), officer information detailing which members served as trustees and/or on what committee. The club had several committees—slide, projector, portrait, special activities, publicity, finance, reception, dinner, membership, salon, audit, print, nominating, program, library and by-laws. The membership applications were maintained on 3" x 5 and 5" x 8" index cards. The annual awards information contains certificates awarded to Barbara Schroeder for a variety of honors, but the majority of documentation deals primarily with annual awards given for color slides. The Henry B. Shaw Memorial Trophy was a specific award and honor that was presented to the NPS member who made the greatest contribution to the well being of NPS. The award was named for Henry B. Shaw, former president of NPS.

The club published a monthly bulletin titled *The Finder*, 1942-1986, which was distributed to club members and photographic dealers. *The Finder* was a one-page newsletter from 1942 to April 1945, but in May of 1945 enlarged to four pages, in some instances with inserts. The Photographs and Negatives, 1959-1960, provide documentation of the club's annual banquet and presentation of awards in 1959 and a holiday outing to Petersburg, West Virginia. The photographs and negatives are approximately 4" x 5". The Salons, 1944-1959, includes schedules and other printed materials about salons that club members participated in or attended in the Washington, D.C. area. Camera Clubs, 1949-1967, documents the Greater Washington Council of Camera Clubs, an organization with which NPS was affiliated, and the Metropolitan Camera Club Council, Inc. of New York, New York. The newspaper clippings, 1948-1955, contain information on two columns, "Camera Angles," a weekly written by Alexander J. Wedderburn, Curator of Photography at the Smithsonian Institution and the "Monthly Print Clinic" featuring a photograph with narrative description.

Scope and Contents

Includes documents concerning the National Photographic Society's affiliations with the Greater Washington Council of Camera Clubs and the Photographic Society of America.

Arrangement

The collection is divided into six series

Series 1: Executive Records

Series 2: Treasurer Records

Series 3: Membership Records

Series 4: The Finder Newsletter

Series 5: Photographs and Negatives

Series 6: Salons

Series 7: Camera Clubs

Series 8: Newspaper Clippings

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Camera clubs -- 1940-1990 -- Washington (D.C.)
Clubs -- Photography -- 1940-1990 -- Washington (D.C.)
Exhibitions -- 1940-1990 -- Washington (D.C.)

Types of Materials:

Clippings -- 1940-1990 -- Washington (D.C.)
Correspondence -- 1940-2000
Minutes
Newsletters -- 20th century
Photographs -- Black-and-white negatives -- Acetate film -- 1900-2000

Names:

Greater Washington Council of Camera Clubs
Photographic History, Division of (NMAH, SI).
Photographic Society of America

Preferred Titles:

The Finder (newsletter)

Container Listing

Series 1: Executive Records, 1944-1978

Subseries 1.1: Historical Background

Box 1, Folder 1

Subseries 1.2: By-laws, undated

Box 1, Folder 2

Subseries 1.3: Constitution, 1944-1978

Box 1, Folder 3

Subseries 1.4: Correspondence, 1947-1976

Box 1, Folder 4

Subseries 1.5: Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1944-1967

Box 2, Folder 1 Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1944

Box 2, Folder 2 Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1945

Box 2, Folder 3 Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1946

Box 2, Folder 4 Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1947

Box 2, Folder 5 Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1948

Box 2, Folder 6 Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1949

Box 2, Folder 7 Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1950

Box 2, Folder 8 Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1951

Box 2, Folder 9 Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1952

Box 2, Folder 10 Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1953

Box 2, Folder 11 Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1954

Box 2, Folder 12 Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1955

Box 2, Folder 13 Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1956

Box 2, Folder 14	Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1957
Box 2, Folder 15	Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes excerpts, 1957
Box 2, Folder 16	Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1958
Box 2, Folder 17	Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1959
Box 2, Folder 18	Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1960
Box 2, Folder 19	Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1961
Box 3, Folder 1	Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1962
Box 3, Folder 2	Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1963
Box 3, Folder 3	Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1964
Box 3, Folder 4	Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1965
Box 3, Folder 5	Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1966
Box 3, Folder 6	Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1967
Box 3, Folder 7	Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1968
Box 3, Folder 8	Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1969
Box 3, Folder 9	Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes, 1971

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Series 2: Treasurer Records, 1956-1973

Box 1, Folder 5 Bank Accounts, 1956-1963

Box 1, Folder 6-8 Treasurer Reports, 1962-1973

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Series 3: Membership Records, 1945-1984

Box 1, Folder 9	Membership Directories, 1947-1982
Box 1, Folder 10	Officers, 1945-1973
Box 3, Folder Unknown	Membership Applications, 1960s-1970s
Box 4, Folder Unknown	Membership Applications, 1960s-1970s
Box 1, Folder 11	Annual Banquet, 1961-1966
Box 1, Folder 12	Annual Awards, 1953-1969
Box 1, Folder 13	Shaw Memorial Trophy, 1979-1984
Box 1, Folder 14	Programs, 1949-1966

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Series 4: The Finder Newsletter, 1942-1986

Subseries 4.1: Correspondence, 1962-1963

Box 6, Folder 1

Subseries 4.2: The Finder, 1942-1986

Box 6, Folder 2	The Finder, 1942
Box 6, Folder 3	The Finder, 1943
Box 6, Folder 4	The Finder, 1944
Box 6, Folder 5	The Finder, 1945
Box 6, Folder 6	The Finder, 1946
Box 6, Folder 7	The Finder, 1946
Box 6, Folder 8	The Finder, 1948
Box 6, Folder 9	The Finder, 1949
Box 6, Folder 10	The Finder, 1950
Box 6, Folder 11	The Finder, 1951
Box 6, Folder 12	The Finder, 1952
Box 6, Folder 13	The Finder, 1953
Box 6, Folder 14	The Finder, 1954
Box 7, Folder 1	The Finder, 1955
Box 7, Folder 2	The Finder, 1956
Box 7, Folder 3	The Finder, 1957
Box 7, Folder 4	The Finder, 1958
Box 7, Folder 5	The Finder, 1959

Box 7, Folder 6	The Finder, 1960
Box 7, Folder 7	The Finder, 1961
Box 7, Folder 8	The Finder, 1962
Box 7, Folder 9	The Finder, 1963
Box 7, Folder 10	The Finder, 1964
Box 7, Folder 11	The Finder, 1965
Box 7, Folder 12	The Finder, 1966
Box 7, Folder 13	The Finder, 1967
Box 7, Folder 14	The Finder, 1968
Box 7, Folder 15	The Finder, 1969
Box 7, Folder 16	The Finder, 1970
Box 7, Folder 17	The Finder, 1971
Box 7, Folder 18	The Finder, 1972
Box 7, Folder 19	The Finder, 1973
Box 8, Folder 1	The Finder, 1974
Box 8, Folder 2	The Finder, 1975
Box 8, Folder 3	The Finder, 1976
Box 8, Folder 4	The Finder, 1977
Box 8, Folder 5	The Finder, 1978
Box 8, Folder 6	The Finder, 1979
Box 8, Folder 7	The Finder, 1980
Box 8, Folder 8	The Finder, 1981

Box 8, Folder 9	The Finder, 1982
Box 8, Folder 10	The Finder, 1983
Box 8, Folder 11	The Finder, 1984
Box 8, Folder 12	The Finder, 1985
Box 8, Folder 13	The Finder, 1986

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Series 5: Photographs and Negatives, 1959-1960

Box 9, Folder 1 Annual Banquet Negatives, 1959

Box 9, Folder 2 Photographs of holiday to Petersburg West Virginia, 1960

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Series 6: Salons, 1944-1959

Box 9, Folder 3	Schedules, 1951-1959
Box 9, Folder 4	International Salons, 1949-1950
Box 9, Folder 5	National Photographic Society Salons, 1944-1959
Box 9, Folder 6	Voice of America/Iranian Salon, 1957

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Series 7: Camera Clubs, 1949-1967

Subseries 7.1: Greater Washington Council of Camera Clubs, 1949-1967

Box 9, Folder 7 Constitution, undated

Box 9, Folder 8 History, 1949-1950

Box 9, Folder 9 Correspondence, 1957-1967

Subseries 7.2: Metropolitan Camera Club Council Inc., 1949-1951

Box 9, Folder 10

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Series 8: Newspaper Clippings, 1948-1955

Box 10, Folder 1 Camera Angles (column), 1948-1955

Box 10, Folder 2 Monthly Print Clinic (column), 1951-1952

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