

# Every Tuesday Club

## Overview of the Collection

Repository: South County History Center 2636 Kingstown Road Kingston, Rhode Island 02881 Tel: 401.783.1328

Title: Every Tuesday Club

Dates: 1876-2003

Media: Bound Volumes, Paper, Photographic Print, Personal Objects

Quantity: 6 boxes, 1 Oversized box, 4 linear feet

Location: Archive Room 2, Shelf 8-9, boxes 1-6 (and Oversize)

Identification: Rec. Gr. 5

Language: English

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## Historical Note

The Every Tuesday Club was founded in 1896, with its first official meeting on January 5, 1897. It functioned as a small literary club for the women of South Kingstown, Rhode Island, although most members were from Kingston village. Initially limited to 15 members, it was expanded in later decades to include over twenty members, often with additional honorary members. Many members were wives of faculty and administrators at the Rhode Island College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts (later the University of Rhode Island), local clergy, and other prominent men in town. The club took its name from its weekly Tuesday meetings, which typically ran from November to April.

Members of the Every Tuesday Club shared book reviews and papers on the history, literature, and culture of foreign countries in meetings that were held at members' homes, the Kingston Free Library, and the college library. Members shared accounts of their personal travels during their meetings. Early meetings also typically included a weekly report on current affairs, drawing information from local newspapers in the absence of televisions and radios, and the Club generally offered an annual music program. In addition to their weekly meetings, members of the Every Tuesday Club often banded together to support various causes during times of national and global strife. During World War I, the Club sponsored ("adopted") a French war orphan. During World War II, the Club sent packages to England and other areas throughout Europe. Because many of the women in the Every Tuesday Club were involved in other local clubs, they often took on other local leadership roles, particularly during wartimes.

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## Scope and Content

The records of the Every Tuesday Club include meeting minutes, writings from club members, bound volumes, yearbooks, annual reports, treasurer reports, receipts and other financial documents, anniversary ephemera, newspaper clippings, personal objects, and correspondence. The series is organized as follows:

Series I: Meeting Minutes

Series II: Subject Files

Series III: Yearbooks

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### **Administrative Information**

**Access:** Any qualified person doing personal or scholarly research is permitted to utilize materials in the South County History Center collections.

**Preferred Citation:** [item], Folder [number], Box [number], Every Tuesday Club Collection, South County History Center

**Provenance:** This collection was compiled by various members of the Every Tuesday Club from its founding until it was brought to the South County History in 2014. At some point, various personal papers and documents from Herbert Wells, his wife Emily P. Wells, and their daughter Emily Potter Wells were absorbed into the collection, likely due to the mother and daughter's involvement with the club that spanned multiple decades. A note with the documents relating to the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the club states the correspondence from the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary was originally in possession of club member Sarah Peckham Hoxie Marchant and later given to her nephew Edward Prest. In 1993, Prest returned the documents to club member Mildred H. Sheldon so that they could be added to the historical collection of the Every Tuesday Club.

**Processed by:** Alicia Vaandering and Alexander Creese

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### **Subject Terms**

Every Tuesday Club (Kingston, R.I.)

Women -- Rhode Island -- Societies, etc.

South Kingstown (R.I. : Town) – History

Kingston (R.I. : Town) – History

South Kingstown (R.I. : Town) – History -- 19<sup>th</sup> Century

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### **Related Materials**

Researchers interested in this collection may also wish to consult the following sources in the South County History Center holdings:

Reference Library – The Every Tuesday Club Meeting Minutes, 2003-2018

Reference Library – Town/City Collection

Subject Vertical Files

Photograph Collection – Kingston Village

Individual/Family Vertical Files

## Contents Listing

### Series I: Meeting Minutes

The Meeting Minutes Series contains the meeting minutes of the Every Tuesday Club from 1897 to 2003. Organized into a set of 12 separately bound notebooks and ledgers, these notebooks account for members present for each meeting and an account of each meeting. They were typically kept by the secretary of the club. This series has been arranged chronologically.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
1	1	Meeting Minutes	1896-1900
1	2	Meeting Minutes	1901-1908
1	3	Meeting Minutes	1925-1930
1	4	Meeting Minutes	1930-1931
1	5	Meeting Minutes	1932-1934
1	6	Meeting Minutes	1934-1937
1	7	Meeting Minutes	1937-1940
2	8	Meeting Minutes	1941-1947
2	9	Meeting Minutes	1947-1961
2	10	Meeting Minutes	1961-1977
2	11	Meeting Minutes	1977-1990
2	12	Meeting Minutes	1991-2003
3	-	Meeting Minutes	2003-2018

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### Series II: Subject Files

The Subject Files Series contains materials compiled by various members of the Every Tuesday Club. It includes materials related to the organization's operations, membership, and history. The types of material present include anniversary ephemera, bound volumes, annual reports, correspondence, membership documents, meeting minutes, newspaper clippings, notebooks, programs, treasurer reports, and writings from the members of the club. These files have been organized alphabetically by theme or type of document and then chronologically.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
3	1	Anniversary Documents and Ephemera	1921-1960
3	2	Anniversary Documents and Ephemera	1961-1996
		Anniversary (95 <sup>th</sup> ) Newspaper Clipping and Certificate from Rhode Island House of Representatives (in Oversize)	1992
3	3	Annual Reports	1914-1930
3	4	Annual Reports	1931-1939
	5	Annual Reports (in Oversize)	1932-1934, 1939-1940
3	6	Annual Reports	1977-1985
3	7	Annual Reports	1986-1998
	8	Certificates of Herbert and Emily Wells (in Oversize)	1886, 1896

3	9	Certificate of Mrs. Herbert Wells	1913
3	10	Constitution and By-Laws	1960-1961, 1973-1974, 1980, n.d.
3	11	Correspondence—25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	1921
3	12	Correspondence—35 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	1931
3	13	Correspondence—40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	1936-1937
3	14	Correspondence between ETC and Members of U.S. Congress	1920
3	15	Correspondence, Miscellaneous	1876, 1928, 1931, 1996-2015, n.d.
3	16	<i>Every Tuesday Club: The First Hundred Years 1896- 1996</i>	1996
3	17	French War Orphan “Adoption”	1920-1921
4	18	Meeting Minutes	1901
4	19	Meeting Minutes	1975-1976
4	20	Membership Committee Log and Membership Invitations, Nominations, and Resignations	1931-1941, 1983-2015, n.d.
4	21	Membership Lists	1977, 1989, 1990, 1992, 1997, 2004-2009, 2011, 2013-2017
4	22	Miscellaneous Local Ephemera	1879, 1920-1921, 1992, n.d.
4	23	Newspaper Clippings	1924-1996, n.d.
4	24	Notebook of Poems and Newspaper Clippings	n.d.
4	25	Notebook of Poems, Quotations, and Notes	n.d.
4	26	Notebook of Sarah P. Marchant	1881
4	27	Notes, Miscellaneous	n.d.
4	28	Photographs, 95 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	1991
4	29	Photographs, Miscellaneous	1968, 1970, 2008, n.d.
4	30	Program Committee Reports	1921-1939, n.d.
4	31	Program Ephemera	1905, 1987, 2012, n.d.
4	32	Programs	1897-1898, 1923-1924
4	33	Receipts and Financial Documents Scrapbook (in Oversize)	1930-1972, n.d. 1910-1930
4	34	South Kingstown 250 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ephemera	1973
5	35	Treasurer’s Book	1901-1920
5	36	Treasurer’s Book	1950-1964
5	37	Treasurer’s Book (1964-1992): Part 1	1964-1969
5	38	Treasurer’s Book (1964-1992): Part 2	1970-1979
5	39	Treasurer’s Book (1964-1992): Part 3	1980-1992
5	40	Treasurer’s Reports	1909-1949, 1964
5	41	<i>Tuesday Club Murders</i> , Agatha Christie	1967
5	42	Writings by Club Member Elizabeth Wells	n.d.
5	43	Writings by Club Members	1874-1919
5	44	Writings by Club Members	1920-1949
5	45	Writings by Club Members	1950-1989
5	46	Writings by Club Members	1990-2011, n.d.

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### Series III: Yearbooks

The Yearbooks Series contains a series of small booklets, “yearbooks,” for each year from 1898-1996. The yearbooks include officer information, committee information, the theme for the year, a calendar of the year’s events, and current member list. The event calendar lists the date, host, papers to be read, and speakers for each meeting.

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
6	1	Yearbooks	1898-1899
6	2	Yearbooks	1900-1909
6	3	Yearbooks	1910-1919
6	4	Yearbooks	1920-1929
6	5	Yearbooks	1930-1939
6	6	Yearbooks	1940-1949
6	7	Yearbooks	1950-1959
6	8	Yearbooks	1960-1969
6	9	Yearbooks	1970-1979
6	10	Yearbooks	1980-1989
6	11	Yearbooks	1990-1999
6	12	Yearbooks	2000-2016