



## The Readers Club Collection

*c. 1923-2007*  
*20 linear inches*

“The Readers,” an organization of Corona women, grew out of the nationally known Delphian Society. A chapter of the Delphian Society was formed on April 11, 1923 at the Women’s Improvement Club. The purpose of the Society was primarily educational and for the personal development of its members. On November 13, 1929, the group withdrew from the Delphian Society and the name of the Club was changed to “The Readers,” and the interest directed to the study of contemporary history, art, literature, poetry and ideas. Outside speakers were invited and a circulating library of new books was begun.

Mrs. T. C. Jameson was the first president of the Delphian Society and Mrs. Chester Gould, vice-president. Membership was twenty-three.

This collection contains the minutes of the meetings, membership lists, attendance records, letters, lists of books purchased and read.

The Women’s Improvement Club and this group were early promoters of culture and arts in the community. They were responsible for the first Library, the Settlement House, the donation of playground equipment and even street cleanup in Corona. The materials provide an interesting commentary on the social, political and everyday life in the growing town of Corona.

The minutes themselves give serendipitous insights to the life of the well-to-do in early Corona. The bank and treasurer’s records reflect an early twentieth century economy. The reading tastes and programs reveal life in the twenties and thirties and both world wars.

Location: B,6

W.D. Addison Heritage Room, 650 S. Main Street, Corona, CA 92882, 951-279-3796

Hours: Monday & Tuesday 3 p.m. – 7 p.m., Wednesday & Thursday by appointment only, Friday – Sunday CLOSED

Gifts of: Original donation, Oct. 19, 1940 from Jessamine Hampton, Additional donation of records 4/02/98 3 three-ring binders received from Dorothy Von Sothen. (Indications in minutes hint that the original donation was retrieved from the Heritage Room and updated and processed with later documents.)

The 3<sup>rd</sup> donation was donated 9/24/2007 “The Readers,” from Secretary, Martha M. Mangan.

Inventory:

Call Number	Folder	Description of Records
M082/1	F1	Finding Aid & Accession Records & receipts for document donations, Historical over view and list of presidents.
M082/1	F2	Minutes of the Delphian Society, April 11, 1923-April 13, 1925
M082/1	F3	Minutes of the Delphian Society, October 7, 1925 to June 2, 1926
M082/1	F4	Minutes of the Delphian Society, October 6/1926 to May 25, 1927

M082/1	F5	Minutes of the Delphian Society, March 28, 1928 to May 23, 1928, (note remarking on missing minutes from Sept.1927 to February, 1928)
M082/1	F6	Minutes of the Delphian Society, October 10, 1928 to May (n.d.) 1929
M082/1	F7	Minutes of the Delphian Society/The Readers, September 23, 1929 to May 24, 1930, Minutes note: Named changed to "The Readers" at meeting November 25, 1929
M082/1	F8	Minutes of "The Readers" October 13, 1930 to May 25, 1931. Newspaper articles glued to back of November 24, 1930 concerning programs at meetings.
M082/1	F9	Minutes of The Readers, October 10, 1932 to May 22, 1933, poem by Janet Gould on club history included with May 22, 1933 minutes. October 10, 1932 minutes include a schedule of upcoming programs
M082/1	F10	Minutes of The Readers, October 9, 1933-May 21, 1934
M082/1	F11	Minutes of The Readers, October 1, 1934 to May20, 1935, partial list of upcoming programs attached to October 1, 1934
M082/1	F12	Minutes of The Readers, October 7, 1935 to May 17, 1937
M082/1	F13	Minutes of The Readers, October 4, 1937 - May 20, 1940
M082/2	F1	Minutes of the Readers, October 7, 1940-May 19, 1941, minutes of the Executive Board, October 7, 1940, two newspaper articles taped to minutes
M082/2	F2	Minutes of the Readers, October 6, 1941-May 22, 1944. Decision to meet once a month in 5/11/1942.
M082/2	F3	Minutes of the Readers, October 23, 1944- May 27, 1946, Board minutes 9/11/1945
M082/2	F4	Minutes of the Readers, October 28, 1946- -May 28, 1951
M082/2	F5	Minutes of the Readers, October 22, 1951-May 28, 1956
M082/2	F6	Minutes of the Readers, October 22, 1956-May 22, 1961
M082/2	F7	Minutes of the Readers, October 23, 1961-May 24, 1965
M082/2	F8	Minutes of the Readers, October 25, 1965-May 26, 1969
M082/2	F9	Minutes of the Readers, October 27, 1969-May 19, 1975
M082/3	F1	Minutes of the Readers, September 27, 1975-September 24, 1979
M082/3	F2	Minutes of the Readers, September 22, 1997-May 26, 2003
M082/3	F3	Minutes of the Readers, September 22, 2003-May 23, 2005
M082/3	F4	Minutes of the Readers, September 26, 2005-May 21, 2007
M082/4	F1	Attendance Records of the Readers, May, 1923-May 19, 1941, October 1943-May, 1979, September 1996-May 2006
M082/4	F2	Bank Records of the Readers, Bank Statement, Dec. 31, 1925, June 2, 1926, Cancelled checks, April 2, 1925, July 21, 1926
M082/4	F3	Book Committee reports (separate from the ones inc. in the minutes) 1941-1942
M082/4	F4	Separate lists of books purchased by the Readers, 1930-2007, some lists have assigned readers. No lists from 1953-1973 and 1980 to 1994.
M082/4	F5	By-laws of the Readers, amendment, May 23, 1938, undated by-laws with a 1939 amendment, as amended May 23, 1960, 1998, Nov. 23, 1998, March, 1999, Nov. 23, 1999, April, 2005
M082/4	F6	Correspondence, misc. letters and cards between Feb. 11, 1939 and Oct. 19, 1940
M082/4	F7	Correspondence between November 1924 and May 10, 2001
M082/4	F8	Correspondence between Oct. 15, 2001 and January 31, 2007
M082/4	F9	Expenditures, 1924-1925
M082/4	F10	List of Officers, 1923-1932
M082/4	F11	Membership Lists April 1, 1925 to 2007, missing 1935-1939, 1943-1967, 1971-, 1973-1982.
M082/4	F12	Miscellaneous, Pamphlet, "The Mentor," In Memoriam, Report of the committee considering changes in the Readers, April 23, 1979
M082/4	F13	"Order of Drawing" Lists of names to be drawn in what order for the books, 1934-35, May 1940-1942, April 23, 1945, 1946
M082/4	F14	Programs, 1997-2007, lists of hostesses and program chairperson
M082/4	F15	Publicity, newspaper articles for May 8, 1930 and November 23, 1931

M082/4	F16	Receipts 1924-1927, dues, luncheon tickets, renewals, club rent, magazines, book of the month club
M082/4	F17	Renewal Registrations, 1924-1927
M082/4	F18	Treasurer's Reports & Worksheets, 1925-1926, 1928-1929, 1940-1945, May 2002-May 22, 2005