

2016

## Spectator Club Records (University of Maine), 1911-2000

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ArchivesSpace

## Spectator Club Records (University of Maine)

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Finding aid written in English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Raymond H. Fogler Library University Archives

5729 Raymond H. Fogler Library

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URL: <http://www.library.umaine.edu/speccoll/>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Raymond H. Fogler Library University Archives
<b>Creator:</b>	University of Maine. Spectator Club
<b>Title:</b>	University of Maine Spectator Club Records
<b>ID:</b>	SpC MS 0583
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1911-2000
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1.5 linear feet (2 boxes)
<b>Physical Location:</b>	
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English

### Preferred Citation

University of Maine Spectator Club Records, SpC MS 0583, [Box No.], [Folder No.], Raymond H. Fogler Library Special Collections Department, University of Maine, Orono, Maine

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## Historical Note

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The Spectator Club was organized on March 31, 1911 in Orono, Maine, to provide a club for a few younger members of the University of Maine faculty to engage in intellectual discussion. L.E. (Elmer) Woodman, Professor of Physics, is credited with the idea forming the group. Charter members included professors Everett Davee, Archer Grover, Walter Curtis, and Lowell J. Reed. Inspired partly by similar area women's groups and another local organization, the Conversation Club (organized in Orono, April 6, 1897), the plan for the Spectator Club was for each member to take turns hosting, selecting, researching, and speaking on a topic of personal interest. Each presentation was followed by group discussion. A history of the club compiled by James A. Gannett in 1949 mentions that the name of the club seems to have been inspired by an English daily publication called *The Spectator*, founded by Joseph Addison and Richard Steele and distributed in England from 1711-1712. The publication was aimed at an emerging middle class and attempted to bring philosophy out of colleges and libraries to become more accessible in clubs, assemblies, tea-tables and coffee houses. Spectator Club members spoke on a wide variety of topics of personal interest related to local, university, and national events, including travel, history, hobbies, books, and innovation in various fields.

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## Scope and Contents

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The collection contains copies of the club constitution, a history of its founding, group photographs of members taken on three different dates, a list of program topics, a few event programs, letters, bills, receipts, and minutes from meetings 1911-2000. Many of the letters offer thanks for support of various causes. Other letters thank the group for gifts and condolences following the death of one of the members. Minutes include detailed accounts of meetings along with lists of officers, members, attendance, speakers, entertainers, topics, dues, expenditures, and treasurer's reports.

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## Arrangement

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Arranged chronologically.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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URL: <http://www.library.umaine.edu/speccoll/>

### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is kept at Fogler Library's offsite storage facility. One week's notice is requested for retrieval.

## Immediate Source of Acquisition

Records for 1911 to 1983 deposited by Norman Wilkinson, club secretary, in 1985. Minutes for 1995-2000 added by William L. Soule in 2012.

## Conditions Governing Use

Information on literary rights available in the repository.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Constitutions
- Minutes
- Lists
- Correspondence
- University of Maine. Spectator Club
- University of Maine -- History
- University of Maine -- Faculty -- Societies, etc.

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## Collection Inventory

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Title/Description	Instances
Club Constitution, adopted in 1911, revised version, 1979	box 1
	folder 1
Club history, prepared by James A. Gannett, 1949	box 1
	folder 2
Club history, revised by Gannett, 1964	box 1
	folder 3
Group photographs of members, 1916, 1941, 1972	box 1
	folder 4
Talks and programs list, 1911-1982	box 1
	folder 5
Letters, bills, receipts, etc., 1916-1918	box 1

	folder 6
Letters, bills, receipts, etc., 1920-1929	box 1
	folder 7
Letters, bills, receipts, etc., 1930-1939	box 1
	folder 8
Letters, bills, receipts, etc., 1940-1949	box 1
	folder 9
Letters, bills, receipts, etc., 1950-1959	box 1
	folder 10
Letters, bills, receipts, etc., 1960-1969	box 1
	folder 11
Letters, bills, receipts, etc., 1970-1972	box 1
	folder 12
Letters, bills, receipts, etc., undated	box 1
	folder 13
Minutes book, 1911-1921	box 1
	folder 14
Minutes book, 1921-1951	box 1
	folder 15
Minutes book, 1951-1962	box 1
	folder 16
Minutes book, 1962-1966	box 1
	folder 17
Minutes, 1966-1969	box 1
	folder 18
Minutes, 1970-1971	box 1
	folder 19
Minutes, 1972-1974	box 1
	folder 20
Minutes, 1975-1979	box 1
	folder 21
Minutes, 1980-1985	box 1

	folder 22
Minutes, 1985-1987	box 1
	folder 23
Meeting, presentation notes, Andrew Chase talk on the book The President's House by William Seale, March 10, 1987	box 1
	folder 24
Minutes, 1988-1989	box 2
	folder 1
Minutes, 1990-1992	box 2
	folder 2
Meeting, presentation notes, Andrew Chase talk on the concept of time, May 8, 1990	box 2
	folder 3
Meeting, presentation notes, Harold Chute discussion of the book "A.P. Giannini: Banker of America" by Felice A. Bonadio, May 9, 1995	box 2
	folder 4
Meeting, presentation notes, Andrew Chase talk, William Safire's thoughts on language, November 14, 1995	box 2
	folder 5
Meeting, presentation notes, Wes Jordan talk on Hibbing, Minnesota, December 12, 1995	box 2
	folder 6
Minutes, 1993-1995	box 2
	folder 7
Minutes, 1996-1998	box 2
	folder 8
Minutes, 1999-2000	box 2
	folder 9