

# Girl Scouts of Greater Minneapolis and Hennepin County Reports and Newsletters

## **COLLECTION SUMMARY**

**Collection number:** B537, Accession # 2002.500.0001 – 2002.500.0002

**Collection repository:** Hennepin History Museum

2303 Third Ave.

Minneapolis, MN 55404

**Collection title:** Girl Scouts

**Dates:** 1937 -- 2007

**Extent:** 2 boxes. .85 linear feet total

**Creator:** Girl Scouts of Greater Minneapolis and Hennepin County and St. Paul, MN, formerly known as the Girl Scout Council – Minneapolis area, Greater Minneapolis Girl Scout Council, Girl Scout Council of Greater Minneapolis and Girl Scouts of Greater Minneapolis and Hennepin County.

**Language of the Material:** English

**Processed by:** Michele Hagen, 2019

## **ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY**

### **History of Girl Scouts**

The Girl Scouts organization was founded in 1912 by Juliette Gordon Low. Juliette began the organization in her hometown of Savannah, Georgia, focusing on the founding principles of inclusiveness, the outdoors, self-reliance, and service. In the 1920s, the first Girl Scout troops launched outside of the USA. During the Great Depression of the 1930s and World War II in the 1940s, Girl Scout troops helped with local relief efforts. The 1960s thru 1970s saw Girl Scouts speaking out for racial equality and the environment. The 1980s thru 1990s were a time of focus on social issues and the advent of technological changes. The Girl Scout website launched in 1996. The 2000s saw the focus shift to healthy development of girls with a movement towards inclusiveness. The 2010s continued to see the integration of traditional activities such as connection with outdoors with newer opportunities brought by technology. Girls Scouts continue to earn badges, participate in ceremonies and sell cookies to raise funds. ([www.girlscouts.org](http://www.girlscouts.org))

### **History of Girl Scouts of Greater Minneapolis and Hennepin County**

Girl Scouting began in Minneapolis in 1917. The first meeting took place at Madison Elementary School. The meeting was led by Marjorie Edgar. In 1954, the name changed to Girl Scout Council Minneapolis Area, Inc. In 1963, the name changed again to Greater Minneapolis

Girl Scout Council. In 2007, the Greater Minneapolis Council merged with four other Minnesota councils, becoming Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys.

### **Marjorie Edgar**

Born in 1889 to William and Anne Edgar, Marjorie was instrumental in the Minneapolis-area Girl Scouts throughout her life. She helped establish Nine Mile Creek, an early camp located in what is now Bloomington, MN, attended international conferences, trained Girl Scout officers and acted as Director. She also collected folk music, which led to her incorporating this music into Girl Scout programs. She published *Songs of Camp Minnesota for Girl Scout Leaders* (Zimmerman Print, 1925) and *Old Songs and Balladry for Girl Scouts* (Girl Scouts, Inc., 1930). A strong interest and immersion into the Finnish culture of northern Minnesota helped Marjorie capture and perform a collection of Finnish American songs. Later, her unpublished collection titled "Songs from Metsola" was incorporated into a work titled *The Rowan Tree: The Lifework of Marjorie Edgar* by Joyce E. Hakala.

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT**

This collection contains a selection of annual reports from 1937 – 2000, issues of *The Pioneer*, *Girl Scout News*, *The Bridge*, *Cookie News*, *Currents*, *Especially for Volunteers* and *Parent Newsletter* newsletters, material from the annual meeting in 2001, and other miscellaneous ephemera. There is also information on William C. Edgar, father of Marjorie Edgar, Joyce Hakala, author of *The Rowan Tree* and a copy of the book *The Rowan Tree*. The collection also includes one Annual Report from the St. Paul Area Girl Scouts from 1959.

The materials show the changes within the local council as it goes from the Girl Scout Council – Minneapolis area to Greater Minneapolis Girl Scout Council, then Girl Scout Council of Greater Minneapolis and Girl Scouts of Greater Minneapolis and Hennepin County. They also represent the works of Marjorie Edgar, told through the book *The Rowan Tree*.

This collection is divided into 3 series.

Series 1: Annual reports. Selection of reports dating from 1937 – 2000. Some early reports only available as photocopies.

Series 2: Newsletters. Includes copies of *The Pioneer*, *Girl Scout News*, *The Bridge*, *Cookie News*, *Currents*, *Especially for Volunteers* and *Parent Newsletter*.

Series 3: Miscellaneous Publications. Includes pamphlets, publications, a playbill, *Celebrating 90 Years in Girl Scouting*, the book *The Rowan Tree* and some research information on William C. Edgar and Joyce Hakala.

### **ACCESS**

The collection is open to researchers and has no restrictions.

## COPYRIGHT

The researcher assumes the responsibility for ensuring copyright is followed. When and where possible the archive will provide information related to the copyright owners, but it will be the responsibility of the researcher to ensure copyright laws are followed. Requests for permission to publish material in this collection should be directed to the Archivist.

## RELATED MATERIAL

Related materials from the Hennepin History Museum:

- 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary patch. (2002.500.0198)
- Uniform. Troop #1320. Includes dress, belt, sash, beret and necktie. No date. (2017.0110.004a-e)
- Calendar. 1964. *Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.* (B51.43)
- Scrapbook. 1916. *Rosedale School, Minneapolis* Contains items on Girl Scouts, 1916. (SC65)
- Photograph. 5" x 7". Glen Lake Sanitorium Girl Scout Troops. (SAN 1.1 p59)

Additional information outside the scope of the museum can be found at the following:

- North Star Museum of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting, North St. Paul, MN. [www.nssm.org](http://www.nssm.org)
- Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys. <https://www.girlscoutsrv.org>
- *Minnesota Reflections*. Searchable digital images. <https://reflections.mndigital.org>
- Girl Scouts of the United States of America. <https://www.girlscouts.org>
- "The Rowan Tree: The Lifework of Marjorie Edgar, Girl Scout Pioneer and Folklorist, With Her Finnish Folk Song Collection 'Songs from Metsola.'" Review in the *Journal of American Folklore*, vol. 127, no. 505, 2014.
- History of the William C. Edgar family. [www.mnhs.org](http://www.mnhs.org)

## ACQUISITION

This collection was donated by Ruth Davis in 2002. According to the *StarTribune* newspaper, Ruth Davis "founded the first synagogue-based Girl Scout troop in Minneapolis, served in state, national and international Girl Scout roles and was the first woman to serve on the board of directors of Adath Jeshurun Synagogue, now in Minnetonka."

## COLLECTION INVENTORY

### Series 1: Annual Reports

Box	Folder	
1	1	1937, 1939 – 1942
1	2	1944 – 1947
1	3	1949, 1952, 1958 – 1959
1	4	1960, 1962, 1968 – 1969
1	5	1971 – 1972, 1974, 1976

1	6	1977 – 1980
1	7	1981 – 1983
1	8	1984 – 1985
1	9	1986, 1988
1	10	1989 – 1990
1	11	1991 – 1992
1	12	1994 – 1995
1	13	1996 – 1998
1	14	1999 – 2000
1	15	1959, Annual Report, St. Paul Area Girl Scouts
2	38	2001: January. Folder and materials from the annual meeting.

**Series 2: Newsletters*****The Pioneer* Girl Scout Council - Minneapolis Area**

Box	Folder	
1	16	1962: October 1963: January, May, June/July, October, November, December

***The Pioneer*, Greater Minneapolis Girl Scout Council**

Box	Folder	
1	17	1964: January, February, April, May, October, December.
1	18	1965: January, May, September,
1	19	1966: March, May, June/July, September, October, November, December
1	20	1967: March, May, June/July, September, November
1	21	1968: January, March, April, May, June/July, September, <i>Index for the Pioneer</i> , January – December.
1	22	1969: January, February, March, April, May, June/July 1970: December
1	23	1973: April, August, September, November
1	24	1974: January, February, November 1975: May, November
1	25	1976: December 1977: March, April, December 1978: May, September
1	26	1979: April, May, June 1980: May/June
1	27	1981: January, February, April, May/June
1	28	1988: January, June (partial), Fall, Winter
1	29	1989: Spring, Summer (3 copies), misc. clipping
1	30	1990: Fall (2 copies), Winter 1991: January/February (2 copies), March/April, May/June, misc. clippings
1	31	1992: March/April, July/August, September/October, November/December, Fall “Cookies Build Camp!” (2 copies)

***The Pioneer, Girl Scout Council of Greater Minneapolis***

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
1	32	1993: July/August, misc. clippings 1994: Winter

***Girl Scout News (formerly the Pioneer)***

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
1	33	1994: September (2 copies), December
1	34	1995: February, May, September
1	35	1997: Spring, March, September 1998: Spring, "Holiday & Cookie News Issue"

***The Bridge***

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
1	36	1998: Fall 1999: Fall 2000: Summer, Fall 2001: Winter, Spring, Summer

***Cookie News***

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
2	37	1997: Holiday Issue
2	37	1999

***Currents***

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
2	37	2007: Winter

***Especially for Volunteers***

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
2	37	1999: Summer

***Parent Newsletter***

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
2	37	1980: Spring
2	37	1981: Winter

**Series 3: Miscellaneous Publications**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
2	39	1945 – 1946: Program for "The Girl Scout Council of Minneapolis and Hennepin County presents <i>Alice in</i>

- Badgeland*,” a play presented at the Minneapolis Auditorium on October 29<sup>th</sup>.
- 2        39        1960: Pamphlet “Through the years with the Girl Scout Council, Minneapolis area.”
- 2        39        1964: Booklet “Patrol Book, Junior Girl Scouts”
- 2        39        1981: Misc. clipping. “Troop News: Scouts Gain Conservation Tips.”
- 2        39        1981: Misc. clipping. “Serving Handicapped Girls.”
- 2        39        1982 – 1983: “Properties Guide (cover only).” Reverse side highlights six camp locations in Minnesota.
- 2        39        1986 – 1989 (?): Brochure, folded. “Girl Scouting Revolves Around You.” Volunteer brochure.
- 2        39        1992: Single page 6, removed from unknown publication. “Older Girls Get Down to Business with Cookies.”
- 2        39        1994: Flyer. “Hey, Did You Know? Selling Girl Scout Cookies Helps You Go to Camp?” Girl Scout cookies sales information.
- 2        39        1994 – 1995: Pamphlet. “About Girl Scouts.”
- 2        39        1995: September. Pamphlet. “Did You Know...? Fun Facts and Historical Trivia About Our Greater Minneapolis Council.”
- 2        40        1995 – 1997: Publication. “Leader Resource Guide.”
- 2        40        *Minnesota Girl Scout Council Locator*. Photocopy (2). 2007.
- 2        40        *Celebrating 90 Years of Girl Scouting in Greater Minneapolis: 1917 – 2007*. Publication. 20 pages with CD-ROM. 2007.
- 2        41        Book. *The Rowan Tree: The Lifework of Marjorie Edgar*. By Joyce E. Hakala. 2007.
- 2        41        Research information. *Joyce Hakala Papers Finding Aid*. University of Minnesota Immigration History Research Center. Photocopy. 2007. (supplied by donor)
- 2        41        Research information. *Kalevala*. Wikipedia. Photocopy. 2007. (supplied by donor)
- 2        41        Research information. *William C. Edgar*. Minnesota Author Biographies Project. Minnesota Historical Society. (supplied by donor)



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