



The New York Public Library
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

Reveille Club of New York collection

1953-2013

Sc MG 499

Summary

Creator: Reveille Club of New York

Title: Reveille Club of New York collection

Date: 1953-2013

Size: 1.46 linear feet (4 boxes)

Source: Gift of the Reveille Club, 2015.

Abstract: The Reveille Club was founded in 1932 by African American war veterans in order to celebrate and recognize each other's accomplishments. The main criteria of membership was friendship. According to the group's certificate of incorporation of 1953, the purposes of the Club were to "bring together persons of good moral character with similar intellectual and social aspirations"; "countenance and promote among its members, from all walks of life, faith in one another...fulfill the desire to meet as a group..."; and "maintain a club house". The directors of the Club in 1953 were Ira L. Aldridge, Chauncey M. Hooper, and Wilmer F. Lucas. An annual gala honored various individuals including Adam Clayton Powell, Joe Lewis, Kenneth Clark, Ralph Bunche, William Hastie, Thurgood Marshall, A. Phillip Randolph, Marion Anderson, Whitney Young, Clifford Alexander Jr., Ralph Ellison, Muriel Petioni, C. Virginia Fields, and many others. This collections consists of administrative and historical material, including a constitution, bylaws, membership handbooks, and historical scrapbook highlighting various members. In addition, there is a large amount of printed matter, mainly magazine articles, various programs, and business directories, which focuses on Black individuals, organizations, and events.

Conditions Governing Access:

Some material removed from the members' handbooks because of personal information.

Preferred citation: [Item], Reveille Club of New York collection, Sc MG 499, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Separated Materials:

Transferred to the Photographs and Prints Division: photographs.

Creator History

The Reveille Club was founded in 1932 by African American war veterans in order to celebrate and recognize each other's accomplishments. The main criteria of membership was friendship. According to the group's certificate of incorporation of 1953, the purposes of the Club were to "bring together persons of good moral character with similar intellectual and social aspirations"; "countenance and promote among its members, from all walks of life, faith in one another...fulfill the desire to meet as a group..."; and "maintain a club house". The directors of the Club in 1953 were Ira L. Aldridge, Chauncey M. Hooper, and Wilmer F. Lucas. An annual gala honored various individuals including Adam Clayton Powell, Joe Lewis, Kenneth Clark, Ralph Bunche, William Hastie, Thurgood Marshall, A. Phillip Randolph, Marion Anderson, Whitney Young, Clifford Alexander Jr., Ralph Ellison, Muriel Petioni, C. Virginia Fields, and many others.

Scope and Content Note

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Key Terms**Subjects**

African American soldiers

African Americans -- New York (State) -- New York -- Societies, etc.

Names

Reveille Club of New York

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Constitution, by-laws, and song 1953-1958
Membership handbooks 1975-1985
Includes multiple handbooks from Club members.
- b. 1 f. 2 Francis Turner's copy
Francis Turner was initiated into the Club in 1934; his handbook dates from 1975-1985.
- b. 1 f. 3 Livingston S. Francis's copies
Includes 3 copies with handwritten notes.
- b. 1 f. 4 "The Reveille Club of New York: Its Story, 1932-1982" 1982-1992
Scrapbooks including biographical sketches and photographs of members. Also include a short historical overview of the club.
Includes two bound copies, one owned by Francis Turner and the other by Edward Meyers, Jr.
- b. 2 f. 1 Correspondence 1968-2013
Includes meeting notices.
- b. 2 f. 2 Meeting minutes and agendas 1968-2002
- b. 2 f. 3 Member resumes and printed matter 1968-1986
Resumes and personal data sheets were used for the membership scrapbooks.
- b. 2 f. 4 Membership lists 1968-1973
- b. 2 f. 5 51st Annual Dinner program and seating information ca. 1983
- b. 2 f. 6 Memorabilia 1993
Includes event tickets and passes.

Printed matter
Includes publications that focus on Black individuals, organizations and events, such as *Life* (1970) with an article on Angela Davis; the *Success Guide to Black Resources, New York City*, 1991; and publicity material for the 1991 play, *Whatever Happened to Black Love?*, among others.
Arranged chronologically.
- b. 2 f. 7 1968-1979
- b. 4 f. 1
- b. 2 f. 8 1983-1989
- b. 4 f. 1
- b. 2 f. 9 1991
- b. 3 f. 1 1992-1994
- b. 3 f. 2 1995-1999
- b. 3 f. 3 2000-2002
- b. 3 f. 4 2003-2005