

The Dayton Amateur Movie Makers Club

MS – 229

Wright State University  
Department of Special Collections and Archives

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## Introduction

The papers of the Dayton Amateur Movie Makers Club were accessioned into the Wright State University Department of Archives and Special Collections in December 1991. They were donated by the Montgomery County Historical Society.

The papers in this collection date from 1943 to 1976. The collection is arranged in nine series as follows:

- Series 1: Constitution, By-laws, History and Roster, 1951-1959
- Series 2: Meeting Minutes 1957-1975
- Series 3: Financial Statements
- Series 4: Newsletters
- Series 5: Correspondence
- Series 6: Attendance records, mailing lists
- Series 7: Film Script "Too Many Cooks Spoil the Broth"
- Series 8: Miscellaneous
- Series 9: Films

There are no restrictions on the use of this collection.

### Agency Sketch

The Dayton Area Movie Makers Club was formed in October of 1943 at the Gibbons Hotel by William Hanna. He felt that the best way to enjoy the hobby of filmmaking was by sharing that pleasure with other film enthusiasts. He was joined by Jay Tribbi, Bill Cooke and Joe Allodi as the founding members of the DAMMC.

The objectives of the club were “the promotion of the art and science of movie making through the association of its members for study and entertainment in relation to movie making techniques.” The club sought to improve the quality of home movies, and provided friendly competition among its members for prizes for best film at their annual “Oscar” award night.

The DAMMC also sought to promote and increase knowledge and interest in photography. They did this through lectures, film presentations and informal film making. The club joined the Amateur Cinema League in 1946 and enjoyed an active membership until December of 1975. Program interest was 186 people strong through the 1940’s and the club maintained an active membership throughout of around 50 people.

The club suspended formal operations in December of 1975 due to lack of nominations for officers for 1976.

## Scope and Content

The records within the Dayton Area Movie Makers Club Collection fall into nine series: (1) constitution and by-laws, history and roster; 1943-1976 (2) meeting minutes 1957-1975 (3) financial records (4) newsletters (5) correspondence (6) membership lists and attendance records (7) movie script (8) miscellaneous; and (9) films.

Series 1 contains the constitution and by-laws, history and original roster for the DAMMC. Included in this series are the revisions to the original constitution and a brief statement on the beginning of the club.

Series 2 is the highlights of the meetings from 1957-1975. These minutes are a brief outline of the meetings, most not more than one typewritten page. Included in the minutes are a brief financial statement of expenses and treasury balance for the month. Also included in the meeting minutes are resolutions of condolence for deceased members.

Series 3 contains the financial records for the Club. These consist of a few statements and expenses for their annual awards.

Series 4 contains the monthly newsletter for the DAMMC. Each newsletter lists the program for the upcoming meeting, usually a lecture and several film presentations.

Series 5 has correspondence between the club, various film or cinematic organizations and club members. Many of the letters are conferences of lifetime membership to those members who have moved from the area.

Series 6 contains membership lists and attendance records from 1944 to 1975. Included in this series are mailing lists for the newsletters.

Series 7 is a copy of the movie script "Too Many Crooks Spoil the Broth." The film was made by the members of the club.

Series 8 includes miscellaneous news articles concerning members of the club, obituaries and various technical dittos.

Series 9 contains films from the club.

Container Listing

**Series I: Constitution**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Constitution, By-laws, history and original club roster	1943-1959

**Series II: Meeting Minutes**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	2	Meeting Minutes	1943-1961
	3	Meeting Minutes	1961-1966
	4	Meeting Minutes	1966-1975

**Series III: Financial Statements**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	5	Financial Statements	1948-1975

**Series IV: Newsletters**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	6	Newsletters	1948-1976

**Series V: Correspondence**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	7	Correspondence	1948-1976

**Series VI: Attendance/Membership Lists**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	8	Membership lists	1944-1975
2	1	Attendance records	1960-1967
	2	Attendance records	1967-1975

**Series VII: Film Script**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
2	3	Film Script	

**Series VIII: Miscellaneous**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
2	4	Miscellaneous	
	5	Die cuts	

**Series IX: Films**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
2	6	Film "Too Many Crooks Spoil the Broth"	
	7	Film #2	
	8	Film #3	