

**MS-549: Ohio Federation of Republican Women Records**

**Collection Number:** MS-549

**Title:** Ohio Federation of Republican Women Records

**Dates:** 1931-2014 (bulk 1990-2009)

**Creator:** Ohio Federation of Republican Women

**Summary/Abstract:**

The Ohio Federation of Republican Women (OFRW), founded in 1929, is the smaller, state representation of the larger National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW). Today OFRW is a volunteer based organization which seeks to support and cultivate Republican women of all ages in the state of Ohio. This collection contains the organization's meeting minutes, member lists, correspondence, reports, fundraising materials, programs, photographs, awards, newsletters, and newspaper clippings.

**Quantity/Physical Description:** 3.5 linear feet and 1.5 MB

**Language(s):** English

**Repository:**

Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092

**Restrictions on Access:**

There are no restrictions on accessing paper-based materials in this collection. However, to access the **electronic files** in this collection, patrons must provide archival staff a minimum of 7 days advance notice. Archives staff reserve the right to restrict access to files with privacy or confidentiality concerns.

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**Preferred Citation:**

[Description of item, Date, Box #, Folder #], MS-549, Ohio Federation of Republican Women Records, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio.

**Acquisition:**

The collection was donated to Special Collections and Archives in August 2015 by Robin Dodge and Lyn Bliss of the Ohio Federation of Republican Women.

**Separated Material:** 3 CDs that contained book lists were moved to the E-Archive.

**Other Finding Aid:**

The finding aid is available on the Special Collections & Archives, Wright State University Libraries web site at

[http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collection\\_guides/guide\\_files/ms549.pdf](http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collection_guides/guide_files/ms549.pdf).

It is also available in the OhioLINK Finding Aid Repository at

<http://ead.ohiolink.edu/xtf-ead/>.

**Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:**

Electronic files that contain the booklist information in Series II are preserved in the E-Archives (e-item numbers ms549\_e0001, ms549\_e0002, ms549\_e0003 all containing identical data).

**Related Material:**

MS-123: League of Women Voters, Dayton Area Chapter

MS-146: Katharine Kennedy Brown Papers

MS-404: Katharine Kennedy Brown Collection (Lenz Additions)

**Processed by:**

Finding aid written according to DACS standards by Nichole Chrissis, March 2017

**Arrangement:** The collection is arranged into three series:

Series I: Administration, 1931-2014 (bulk 1958-2014)

Series II: Projects, 1981-2009

Series III: Newsletters and Publications, 1982-2009

**Historical Note:**

The Ohio Federation of Republican Women was first organized on November 29, 1929, by school teacher Mrs. Hugh Clark who dreamed of seeing women help serve the United States of America as leaders. She founded OFRW as a means to educate and encourage women in politics. A skilled orator, she was a delegate at the Republican National Convention in 1929 and traveled around the country speaking on behalf of Herbert Hoover during his presidential campaign.

Except for one statewide rally in Columbus on April 30, 1930, the organization remained inactive until 1940. In August 1940, Katharine Kennedy Brown organized a meeting in Columbus with members of the Ohio Republican State Central and Executive Committee to reactivate OFRW as a state level part of the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW). Katharine Kennedy Brown served as the President of OFRW from 1940-1971. It has remained active ever since.

NFRW's goal was to educate women about the Republican Party and to encourage women to be active in the party. To be a state member of the national organization, a state was required to have clubs in at least sixty percent of its counties. When Ohio was accepted into NFRW in 1940,

it had over 200 clubs and 6,000 members. By January 1941, OFRW had 331 clubs and 15,000 dues-paying members. At its peak in 1970, the organization had 369 clubs and 40,000 members.

The Ohio Federation of Republican Women is devoted to fundraising for and supporting the Republican Party on local, state, and national levels. In addition, they give out scholarships and are involved with charitable organizations. Their seasonal conferences and meetings are accented with awards ceremonies honoring the deeds of women, such as the Tribute to Women. OFRW's circulating publication was *The Buckeye Backbone*.

In 1991, the National Federation of Republican Women Biennial Convention was held in Cincinnati, Ohio. This was a large event for both the national and state levels of the organization. The entirety of the OFRW officers, board members, and members from local clubs worked together to host over 3,000 guests from all over the country. The team successfully raised \$200,000 to pay for the convention, making it the first and only time in NFRW history that a state raised more money than was needed for the event. The additional funds were used to purchase the Ohio Room at the new NFRW headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia.

### **Scope and Content Note:**

The Ohio Federation of Republican Women Records span from 1931-2014 (bulk 1990-2009) and includes meeting minutes, events programs, letters of correspondence, newsletters and publications, photographs, political information, newspaper clippings, administrative records, and scholarship information.

Series I, Administration, 1931-2014 (bulk 1958-2014), contains the administrative records of OFRW. These include meeting minutes, programs, conference information, awards, membership, political backings, payment information, executive photographs, and official correspondence. It also includes records from Katharine Kennedy Brown's presidency, documents from the National Federation of Republican Women convention in Cincinnati, Ohio, and a copy of the original founding registration for the Ohio Federation of Republican Women.

Series II, Projects, 1981-2009, contains information pertaining to the projects with which OFRW was involved. This includes scholarships, fundraising, charity and donations, Tribute to Women honorary, and other activities beyond the scope of maintaining the core of the organization.

Series III, Newsletters and Publications, 1982-2009, contains circulating literature in OFRW. This includes the local Ohio publication *The Buckeye Backbone* and its later manifestations, *The Buckeye Voice* and *The OFRW Voice*. It also has smaller regional newsletters, as well as the national publication *The Republican Woman*.

### **Subject Terms:**

#### **Persons/Families**

Brown, Katharine Kennedy, 1891-1986

#### **Organizations/Corporate Names**

National Federation of Republican Women  
 Ohio Federation of Republican Women  
 Republican Party (Ohio)

**Places**

Columbus (Ohio)

**Subjects (General)**

Ohio – Politics and government  
 Ohio – Politics and government – 1865-1950  
 Ohio – Politics and government – 1951-  
 Women – Political activity – Ohio

**Material Types**

Electronic records (digital records)  
 Correspondence  
 Minutes (Records)  
 Clippings (information artifacts)  
 Photographs  
 Programs (Publications)  
 Publications (documents)

**Collection Inventory**

<b>Box</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Series I: Administrative</b>			<b>1931-2014, Bulk 1958-2014</b>
1	1	National Federation of Republican Women, Background and Bylaws	Undated
1	2	National Federation of Republican Women, Member Recruitment	Undated
1	3	National Federation of Republican Women, Convention	1985 Sep.
1	4	National Federation of Republican Women, Convention	1986-1989
1	5	National Federation of Republican Women, Convention	1990-1992
1	6	National Federation of Republican Women, Cincinnati Convention	1991
1	7	National Federation of Republican Women, Cincinnati Convention	1991
1	8	National Federation of Republican Women, Convention	1997
1	9	National Federation of Republican Women,	1998

<b>Box</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
		Convention	
1	10	National Federation of Republican Women, Convention	1999-2005
1	11	National Federation of Republican Women, Convention	2006
1	12	National Federation of Republican Women, Convention	2007-2009
1	13	The Women's Republican Club of Ohio	1959, 1962
1	14	OFRW Background and Bylaws	1931, 1999-2006
2	1	OFRW Member Recruitment	1995-2006
2	2	OFRW Meeting Minutes	1958
2	3	OFRW Meeting Minutes	1959
2	4	OFRW Meeting Minutes	1960
2	5	OFRW Meeting Minutes	1974
2	6	OFRW Meeting Minutes	1975
2	7	OFRW Meeting Minutes	1976-1977
2	8	OFRW Meeting Minutes	1978-1990
2	9	OFRW Meeting Minutes	1991-1993
2	10	OFRW Meeting Minutes	1994-1995
3	1	OFRW Meeting Minutes	1996
3	2	OFRW Meeting Minutes	1997
3	3	OFRW Meeting Minutes	1998
3	4	OFRW Meeting Minutes	1999
3	5	OFRW Meeting Minutes	2000
3	6	OFRW Meeting Minutes	2001
3	7	OFRW Meeting Minutes	2002
3	8	OFRW Meeting Minutes	2003
3	9	OFRW Meeting Minutes	2004
3	10	OFRW Meeting Minutes	2005-2006
3	11	OFRW Meeting Minutes	2007
3	12	OFRW Meeting Minutes	2008
3	13	OFRW Meeting Minutes	2009
4	1	OFRW Meeting Minutes	2010-2014
4	2	President's Reports	1998-2001
4	3	OFRW District Club Minutes, General	1994-2008
4	4	OFRW District Club Minutes, Northwest	1992-2002
4	5	OFRW District Club Minutes, Northeast	1991-2007
4	6	OFRW District Club Minutes, South	1993-2004
4	7	OFRW District Club Minutes, Central	1998-2004
4	8	OFRW District Club Minutes, East	1993-2010
4	9	OFRW District Club Minutes, Southwest	1992-2009
4	10	OFRW District Club Minutes, Northeast-Northwest	2004-2007
4	11	OFRW District Club Minutes, Central-East	2005-2006
4	12	OFRW District Club Minutes, Southwest-South	2004-2005

<b>Box</b>	<b>File</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
4	13	OFRW Insurance	2014
4	14	NFRW/OFRW Elections	2007
4	15	Administration Photographs	1972-1993
<b>Series II: Projects</b>			<b>1981-2009</b>
4	16	OFRW Awards	1987-1988
5	1	OFRW Awards	1993-2002
5	2	OFRW Awards	2003
5	3	OFRW Awards	2004-2006
5	4	OFRW Awards	2007
5	5	Tribute to Women	1981-1994
5	6	Tribute to Women	1996-2004
5	7	Tribute to Women	2006
5	8	Tribute to Women	2009
6	1	Literacy Programs	1999-2003
6	2	Literacy Programs	2004-2007
6	3	Ohio Republican Party Affiliations	1999-2009
6	4	Sister Cities Project	Circa 1998
6	5	Cardinal Project	1992-2004
6	6	Win with Ohio Women	1994-2001
6	7	Scholarships	1998-2009
6	8	Constitution Day Program	2005
6	9	Legislative Day Program	2004
6	10	Military Support	2004-2007
6	11	Ladies' Gallery Project	2004-2006
6	12	Caring for America Project	2006-2009
6	13	OFRW Heritage Fund	2008-2009
6	14	NFRW Headquarters Restoration	2008-2009
ms549_e0001 ms549_e0002 ms549_e0003		Grand Lake List (Excel spreadsheet list of books)	2007
<b>Series III: Newsletters and Publications</b>			<b>1982-2009</b>
6	15	<i>The Republican Woman</i> Publication	1990-1994
6	16	<i>The Republican Woman</i> Publication	1995-2007
7	1	<i>The Buckeye Backbone</i> Publication	1982-1993
7	2	<i>The Buckeye Backbone</i> Publication	1994-1997
7	3	<i>The Buckeye Backbone</i> Publication	1997-2001
7	4	<i>The Buckeye Backbone</i> Publication	2002-2008
7	5	<i>The Buckeye Backbone</i> Publication	Circa 1987
7	6	<i>The Buckeye Voice</i> and <i>The OFRW Voice</i> Publications	2008-2009
7	7	County Publications	1987-1988