

**McLean County Museum of History**

**Blooming Grove  
Ladies Aid Collection**

Processed by  
Matt St.Hilaire  
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**Collection Information**

Volume of Collection:	1 Box
Collection Dates:	1916-1981
Restrictions:	None
Reproduction rights:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
Alternative Forms:	None
Other Finding Aids:	None
Location:	Archives
Notes:	Gift of Dave Ashbrook, 2015. His late wife Norma was a member.

## **Brief History**

Founded on Jan. 17, 1916, at the Blooming Grove Christian Church, the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid Society worked to provide charitable contributions to benefit their local community. They gifted flowers, baby clothes, and money to both individuals and organizations. Eventually they appear to have dropped the word "Society" from their title.

## **Scope**

This collection includes notebooks detailing the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid meetings, correspondence letters between individuals and the Ladies Aid, newsletters, and newspaper articles announcing Ladies Aid meetings.

## **Box and Folder Inventory**

### **Folder 1: Correspondence**

- 1.1 Thank you note from Juda Plotan addressed to Blooming Grove Ladies Aid thanking them for a vase of roses. Envelope addressed to Lolo Jones. Undated.
- 1.2 Invitation to Tea and Guest Day at Methodist Church in Heyworth. Signed by Maselle Cotner Sec. and Mildred Wisemen Pres. Undated.
- 1.3 Empty envelope addressed to Deane Ryburn of Heyworth. "Blooming Grove Ladies Aid" written on bottom of envelope. Undated.
- 1.4 Thank you note from "Peral" addressed to the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid thanking them for sending her roses while in the hospital. The envelope has various markings regarding roll call, minutes, hostess duties, and expenditures. Undated.
- 1.5 Thank you note from "Adah" thanking Blooming Grove Ladies Aid for flowers, phone calls, and visits. Envelope addressed to Mrs. Helen Hanell. Undated.
- 1.6 Thank you note from "Louise, Larry, and Scott" thanking the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid for gifting "Scott" a baby outfit. Undated.
- 1.7 Thank note from Stella thanking Blooming Grove Ladies Aid for gifting her a plant. Envelope addressed to Helen Hanell. Undated.
- 1.8 Thank note from Jack Reeser family thanking the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid for a memorial gift. Envelope addressed to Blooming Grove Ladies Aid. Undated.
- 1.9 Thank you note from the family of Kenneth W. Schuts addressed to Helen Dean McGraw of the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid. Undated.

- 1.10 Thank you note from Sally Kregbaum, executive director of American Cancer Society thanking the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid for packing door-to-door kits. Envelope addressed to Mrs. Lola Jones. Dated March 17, 1982.
- 1.11 Thank you note from Verna Jones thanking the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid for a vase of flowers. Undated.
- 1.12 Thank you note from Mae B. Caudill, Area Executive Director of American Cancer Society, thanking the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid for raising funds for fighting cancer. Dated April 13, 1970.

**Folder 2: Calendars/Newsletters**

- 2.1 March 1972 Calendar with donation schedule for Kappa Home. Faded on lower right quadrant.
- 2.2 1980 Blooming Grove Ladies Aid newsletter with member list, officer list, and meeting dates.
- 2.3 1981 Blooming Grove Ladies Aid newsletter with member list, officer list, and meeting dates.

**Folder 3: Meeting Notices**

- 3.1 Notice that Mrs. E.J. Sweeney will serve as host for the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid. Dated Jan. 11, 1973
- 3.2 Notice that Mrs. Lola Jones will serve as host for the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid. Feb. 8, 1973.
- 3.3 Notice that Mrs. Lorene Reeser will serve as host for the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid. Date on paper reads Sept. 10, 1973, but handwritten date reads Sept. 13, 1973.
- 3.4 Notice that Mrs. Rozelle Theobald will serve as host for the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid. Undated.
- 3.5 Notice that Mary Sheets will serve as host for the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid and that the group will collect cans for Home Sweet Home Mission. Undated.
- 3.6 Notice that Mrs. Alice McMillion will serve as host for the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid. Undated.

**Folders 4: Miscellaneous**

- 4.1 Poem entitle "Cheer Up!" Undated.
- 4.2 Sermonette by Rev. Don Jennings dealing with beauty. From unknown newspaper/magazine. Undated.
- 4.3 Newspaper Article from Normal News about reflecting on last year and looking forward to the new one, specifically between 1967 and 1968. Undated.
- 4.4 Newspaper article reprinted from "Advertising Age" discussing the use of God in advertisements. Nov. 13, 1972.
- 4.5 Piece of paper with dollar amounts allocated to certain funds. Undated.

- 4.6 Piece of paper with coins and dollar amounts listed and totaled. Undated.
- 4.7 "Are you soft soaping God?" Typed article referencing cleaning products. Undated.
- 4.8 Piece of paper with list of names. Undated.

**Folder 5: Expenditures 1949-1958**

- 5.1 Notebook detailing the finances of the Blooming Grove Ladies Aid. Jan. 6, 1949- Dec. 1958.

**Folder 6: Members, Minutes, and Roll Calls 1916-1930**

- 6.1 Notebook with minutes, roll calls, member and officer lists. Jan. 17, 1916- Dec. 8, 1920.
- 6.2 Notebook with minutes, roll calls, member and officer lists. Jan. 18, 1921- Jan. 2, 1930.

**Folder 7: Members, Minutes, and Roll Calls 1930-1944**

- 7.1 Flip book with officer, committee, and member list and meeting dates with who was in charge of the following duties: hostess, devotion, and roll call. 1944.
- 7.2 Notebook with minutes, roll calls, member and officer lists. Jan. 18, 1921- Jan. 2, 1930.
- 7.3 Notebook with minutes, roll calls, member and officer lists. Jan. 2, 1930- Dec. 3, 1936.

**Folder 8: Members, Minutes, and Roll Calls 1945-1959**

- 8.1 Notebook with minutes, roll calls, member and officer lists. Jan. 4, 1945- Dec. 7, 1950.
- 8.2 Notebook with minutes, roll calls, member and officer lists. Jan. 4, 1951- Dec. 1959.

**Folder 9: Members, Minutes, and Roll Calls 1960-1972**

- 9.1 Roll call sheet for 1966.
- 9.2 Members list for 1967 with number of missed meetings marked.
- 9.3 Booklet marked "Blooming Grove Ladies Aid." Details the officers, members, and meeting dates for 1971. Each meeting date lists who did the following duties: hostess, roll call, devotion, and recreation. The last page has a members list along with each member's phone number.
- 9.4 Notebook with minutes, roll calls, member and officer lists. Jan. 1960- Dec. 3, 1965.
- 9.5 Small binder with minutes, roll calls, member and officer lists. Jan. 6, 1966- Dec. 14, 1972.

**Folder 10: Members, Minutes, and Roll Calls 1973-1981**

- 10.1 List of officers from 1973.
- 10.2 List of members with phone numbers from 1973.
- 10.3 Notebook with minutes, roll calls, member and officer lists. Jan. 11, 1973- Dec. 13, 1979.
- 10.4 Small binder with minutes, roll calls, member and officer lists. Jan. 9, 1975- Nov. 12, 1981 and Jan. 11, 1973- Dec. 12, 1974.