Collection name: Alpena County Library: Scrapbooks

Collection number: ACL-2

Dates: 1971-2006

Quantity: 5 boxes

Provenance note: Scrapbooks (newspaper clippings / photographs) created by Library staff. Scrapbooks taken apart for archival filing.

Biographical & Historical Information:

History of Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library

- **1860** The fledgling community voted $25 for library purposes
- **1864** Four Alpena women formed a reading circle and called themselves the "Ladies Metropolitan Library Association."
- **1868** Diane Morse Richardson opened her home to the public on Saturday afternoons with the help of Mrs. H.R. Morse and Mrs. S. A. Mather. The name of a fourth woman is unknown. The city and county were prosperous with a population of 2,756.
- **1873** The library was under public school control.
- **1874** Col. William D. Hitchcock - first librarian.
- **1875** Appointment of Librarian, Ms. Lizzie Nason, made $50/year. Library located in the Centennial Block.
- **1876** The library built in Old Union School building.
- **1890** Miss Emily Oliver, librarian for 40 years until her death in 1930.
- **1891** The collection was returned to the school site.
- **1918** Library housed in old Sanitarium building (Fletcher House) on First Street because of crowded conditions in high school.
- **1931** City acquired title to two lots at the corner of Third and Lockwood – Depression ended dream of building new building and continued in Sanitarium.
- **1936** (March 10) Building burned, most material lost. Grace Fletcher King donated site of the health spa for the purpose of erecting the George N. Fletcher Library. If the library was not built, the ground was to be retained as a city park. Temporary quarters were set up in City Hall.
- **1939** Masonic Building – 119 Second Avenue – Miss Lucille Penneman, librarian – Governor William A. Comstock donated 3,000 volumes from his own personal library to replenish the depleted shelves.
- **1941** Set up in high school on temporary basis, but remained until 1966.
- **1960** County Committee named to study library needs.

- **1967** Alpena County Board of Commissioners took over responsibility for public library, two storefronts were rented for the library on North Second Street just south of the bridge. Librarian Oliver Booth hired – circulated 64,425 items in first year.
- **1970** Librarian Roger Mendel hired, Fletcher site selected. The building was constructed with Federal Revenue Sharing Fund from the County, City, Alpena Township as well as several other townships. A grant from the Jesse Besser Fund and numerous private donations were received. Finished building - 18,000 square feet with the County Library of the first floor and Northland Library Cooperative on the second.
- **1979** The second floor was finished.
- **1980** Northland moved out.
- **1997** The building was renovated.
- **1999** Judi Stillion, Assistant Director made Director-employee since 1971.
- **2000** Began plans to address need for additional storage and materials space, circulation of items exceeded 300,000 - 1/3 again what it had been the year before.
- **2001** Initiated countywide fund drive to raise $1,000,000 to meet increased needs for materials and storage.
- **2002**   Condominium zed the adjacent Currier building with the Library Board purchasing the second floor for the new addition. The Library Board of Trustees owns both buildings.
- **2003**   Completed construction of connecting bridge and finished second floor space. Added National Marine Sanctuary collection.
- **2005** With $234,000 state grant began digitizing Sanctuary collection, began plans for Alpena History Room.
- **2006** Added children's sculpture in honor of Sue Sandy, Friends President for many years due to her untimely death. Added heron fountain sculpture by award winning sculptor, Don Rambadt.
- **2007** Alpena History Room opened.
- **2008** Stillion retired; Eric Magness-Eubank named Director.

Scope & Content: Newspaper clippings relating to Library; photographs of Library building and events.

Access: Open to research.

Preferred Citation: Alpena County Library Collections: Scrapbooks; Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library

Contents:

Alpena County Library Collection: Scrapbooks

ACL-2

Box 1 of 5:

Folder

1. Newspaper clippings (1971 – 1973)
2. Newspaper clippings (1974-1975)
3. Scrapbook [part a] (1975)
4. Scrapbook [part b] (1975-1976)
5. Scrapbook [part c] (1976)
6. Scrapbook [part d] (1976-1980)
7. Newspaper clippings (1976-1979)
8. Newspaper clippings (1980-1994)
9. Newspaper clippings (1995-2001)
10. Newspaper clippings (2002-2004)
11. Newspaper clippings (2005-2006)
12. Newspaper clippings (2007-2008)
13. Scrapbooks [Misc]
14. Scrapbooks [Public Library Needs in Alpena] (1960)
15. Scrapbooks [USA Patriot Act] (2001)

Box 2 of 5:

Folder

1. Photographs [Building] [Conference Room & Catwalk Construction] (2003)
2. Photographs [Building] [Conference Room & Catwalk Construction] (2003)
3. Photographs [Building] [Conference Room & Catwalk Construction] (2003)
4. Photographs [Building] [Conference Room & Catwalk Construction] (2003)
5. Photographs [Building] [Conference Room & Catwalk Construction] (2003)
6. Photographs [Building] [Conference Room & Catwalk Construction] (2003)
7. Photographs [Building] [Conference Room & Catwalk Construction] (2003)
8. Photographs [Building] [Interior & Exterior]
9. Photographs [Building] [Interior & Exterior]
10. Photographs [Building] [New Construction] (1973)
11. Photographs [Building] [Remodel / Construction Projects]
12. Photographs [Building] [Remodel / Construction Projects]
13. Photographs [Building] [Remodel / Construction Projects]

Box 3 of 5:

Folder

1. Photographs [ACC Art Show] (1990)
2. Photographs [Authors]
3. Photographs [Authors]
4. Photographs [Bush, Laura]
5. Photographs [Children] [non-program related]
6. Photographs [Christmas Decorating & Tree] (2004-2006)
7. Photographs [Dickensfest] (1991)
8. Photographs [Displays]

9. Photographs [Farm Animal Day] (1989-1995)
10. Photographs [Farm Animal Day] (1994)
11. Photographs [Fountain]
12. Photographs [Fundraising, book, yard sales]
13. Photographs [Library conference / awards] (c1990)
14. Photographs [Mendel, Roger – retirement] (1998)
15. Photographs [Music]
16. Photographs [Negatives]
17. Photographs [Negatives]
18. Photographs [Parade Float – Shipwreck] (July 2006)

Box 4 of 5:

Folder

1. Photographs [Programs - Adult]
2. Photographs [Programs - Children] [African programs]
3. Photographs [Programs – Children] [Carnivals]
4. Photographs [Programs – Children] [Carnivals]
5. Photographs [Programs – Children] [Carnivals]
6. Photographs [Programs – Children] [Crafts]
7. Photographs [Programs – Children] [Face Painting] (1995)
8. Photographs [Programs – Children] [Halloween Party & Crafts]
9. Photographs [Programs – Children] [Misc]
10. Photographs [Programs – Children] [Misc]
11. Photographs [Programs – Children] [Misc]
12. Photographs [Programs – Children] [Puppet Shows]

Box 5 of 5:

Folder

1. Photographs [Programs – Children] [Storytime & Storytelling]
2. Photographs [Programs – Children] [Summer Book Club] (late 1990s)
3. Photographs [Programs – Teen]
4. Photographs [Quilt Shows]
5. Photographs [Shoestring] (late 1970s/ early 1980s?)
6. Photographs [Shoestring] (1979)
7. Photographs [Shoestring] (1982, 1983)
8. Photographs [Special Collections]
9. Photographs [Staff & Board Members]
10. Photographs [Thunder Bay Literary Conference] (c1989)
11. Photographs [Thunder Bay Literary Conference] (c1991-1993)
12. Photographs [Thunder Bay Literary Conference] (1992)
13. Photographs [Thunder Bay Literary Conference] (1990, 1994)