

Collection name: Lillian Irwin Collection

Repository: Special Collections Department, Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library. 211 First Ave, Alpena, MI 49707.
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Collection number: LIC-1 / 2020.011

Dates: 1917-2011

Creator Name: Lillian Irwin

Quantity: .75 Linear ft / 3 boxes

Language: English

Biographical & Historical Information: Lillian Irwin was born August 5, 1926 in Maple Ridge Township to Guy & Alta Irwin and raised in the Alpena. She trained as a teacher through Alpena County Normal Training School. She was a teacher her entire adult life, mainly downstate. She never married. She retired to Alpena and died here on April 20, 2018.

(Obituary from Findagrave.com) Lillian E. Irwin 91, of Alpena passed away Friday, April 20, 2018 at Medilodge Greenview.

Lillian E. Irwin was born in Maple Ridge Township on August 5, 1926 to the late Guy and Alta (Bearss) Irwin.

Miss Irwin was preceded by four siblings, Violet St. John, Rex Irwin, Scott Irwin, Daisy Irwin and surviving are several nieces and nephews.

Lillian graduated from Gohl School, Alpena High School, Alpena County Normal, Michigan State Normal College (now Eastern Michigan) Ypsilanti with a Bachelor of Arts Degree and University of Detroit with a Master's Degree.

She taught at Orchard Hill School and the Hinton School in Maple Ridge Township (Alpena County) and the Foster School (Washtenaw County). Miss Irwin worked as a Telephone Operator while attending college. After achieving her Bachelor's Degree, she taught at the Marquette and Farmington Elementary Schools in Garden City, Michigan. In 1990, Miss Irwin retired after 40 years of teaching.

She accepted Jesus Christ as her Savior and Lord as a child under the ministry of Miss Dorothy Thacker at the Cathro Community Church during Vacation Bible School.

Lillian was a member of the First Missionary Church of Westland and was involved in teaching Sunday School and being Director of Primary and Junior Churches, Vacation Bible Schools and

Cadets, and served the Lord as a Deaconess. Her greatest joy was teaching children.

After returning to Alpena in 1994, Miss Irwin became a member of the Cathro Community Baptist Church helping in Kings Kids, Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. She served the Lord as the Treasurer of the Cathro Church.

She was a life member of NEA (National Education Association), MEA (Michigan Education Association) and MARSP (Michigan Association of Retired School Personal). Miss Irwin was a member of the GCEA (Garden City Education Association) and served as a representative for many years. Miss Irwin was a member of the Botanical Club and Audubon Society.

Scope & Content: *What can the records tell us, and how?*

Acquisition: Donated by niece, Tina St. John Markowski

Access: Open for research

Preferred Citation: *item, folder, box* Lillian Irwin Collection, Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library. Alpena, MI

Collection Contents:

Box 1:

Folder

1. Alpena County Normal Training School [Churchill School Fire] (1946)
2. Alpena County Normal Training School [Class lists and pictures] (1917-1952)
3. Alpena County Normal Training School [Commencement & Baccalaureate programs] (c1929-1950)
4. Alpena County Normal Training School [Alpena County Rural Schools Directories] (1932, 1946)
5. Alpena County Normal Training School [History]
6. Alpena County Normal Training School [Misc]
7. Alpena County Normal Training School [One- room school pictures] [Spain, Trucky, and Bolton Schools (2000)]
8. Alpena Teachers [Administration] (c1960s)
9. Alpena Teachers [Classroom development] (1960s)
10. Alpena Teachers [Delta Kappa Gamma]
11. Alpena Teachers [Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel - MARSP]
12. Alpena Teachers [Misc] [news articles] (1960s-1970s)
13. Alpena Teachers [Music recognition] (2011)
14. Alpena Teachers [New hires] (1964-1977)
15. Alpena Teachers [Retiring teachers / staff] (1965- 2010)
16. Alpena Teachers [Sports recognition]
17. Alpena Teachers [Staff development] (1964-1973)
18. Alpena Teachers [Staff recognition] [includes BLAKE, Margaret; FINCH, M. E.; HART, Mary Louise; HOCKETT, Blanche, KELM, Harriet; MAY, Loma]
19. Alpena Teachers [Weddings/anniversaries, Family reunions]

Box 2:**Folder**

1. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [Class pictures & student lists]
2. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [Graduation pictures & announcement for Lillian Irwin]
3. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [Graduation program] (1945)
4. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [Handbook] (1941-42)
5. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [Misc]
6. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [People in the news]
7. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [School building]
8. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [Reunion list & addresses]
9. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [Reunion, 5th & 7th] (1950, 1952)
10. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [Reunion, 25th] (1970)
11. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [Reunion, 40th] (1985)
12. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [Reunion, 45th] (1990)
13. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [Reunion, 50th] (1995)
14. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [Reunion, 53rd] (1998)
15. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [Reunion, 55th] (2000)
16. Alpena High School, Class of 1945 [Weddings & Anniversaries]
17. Maple Ridge [Birthdays, family reunions, military]
18. Maple Ridge [Business people, political offices]
19. Maple Ridge [Churches]
20. Maple Ridge [Engagements, weddings, anniversaries]
21. Maple Ridge [History]
22. Maple Ridge [Hunting, fishing, agriculture, etc]
23. Maple Ridge [Misc]
24. Maple Ridge [Schools]
25. Maple Ridge [WYMAN, Larry – photographer]

Box 3:**Folder**

1. Gohl School [Ele's Memoirs and Memorabilia by Eleanore (Wikaryasz) Robinette-Bouchard] (2004)
2. Gohl School [History, teachers list, photographs]
3. Gohl School [One-room schoolhouse pictures "today"] [Hinton, Spain, Guernsey Schools]
4. Gohl School [People in the news: Engagements/weddings/anniversaries, birthdays, military, family reunions]
5. Gohl School [People in the news: misc]
6. Gohl School [Reunions] (1995-2014)
7. Gohl School [Reunion photographs] (1995, 1998)
8. Gohl School [Reunion photographs] (2002)
9. Gohl School [Reunion photographs] (2005, 2008)
10. Gohl School [Reunions; non-Gohl] (1982-2006)
11. Gohl School [Teachers; non-Gohl]
12. Hinton School (1947-48)

13. Orchard Hill School (1946-47)

14. Michigan State Normal College + misc