

**Sturgis Library Archives
Town and Local History Collection**

**Friends of Sturgis Library Collection, 1949--2011
MS. 100**

Extent: 3 boxes

Scope and Content Note: The collection consists of minutes, reports, correspondence, records, and other documents related to the Friends of Sturgis Library organization.

Historical and Biographical Information: The Friends of Sturgis Library organization was originally established in 1949 “to aid the ancient and historic institution, and promote its service to the community.” Activity during the 1950s through the 1970s was intermittent. In 1979 the Friends reorganized, and an inaugural meeting took place on November 29th, 1979. At that meeting they stated the “purpose of the group shall be to maintain an independent association of persons interested in libraries and in the cultural life of the community; to focus attention on the library; to stimulate the use of the library’s resources and services; to receive and encourage gifts, endowments, and bequests; to support and cooperate with the library in developing library facilities for the community; and to support the freedom to read as expressed in the American Library Association Bill of Rights.” They were not incorporated as a 501(c) (3) organization.

This mission adapted and changed over the years and the Friends’ current mission in 2010 was “to work to enrich the cultural life of the community through activities relevant to a broad range of ages and interests; to encourage public support; and to raise funds for the needs and goals of Sturgis Library.” The Friends carried out their mission by running the Friends of the Library’s Book and Gift Shop, sponsoring programs of interest to the community, running small fundraising events throughout the year, and donating proceeds from their sales and events to the Library. Friends’ funds were used to enhance and preserve the library’s collections; to provide programming and services; to purchase equipment and supplies; and to preserve and repair the building.

The Friends disbanded as an organization in June of 2011, though a number of their members stayed on in a volunteer capacity and continue to support the Library in a variety of ways.

Related Material:

Access: Unrestricted. Credit Sturgis Library archives for publication.

Acquisition: Acquired from the Friends of Sturgis Library.

Processed by: Lucy Loomis, December 2011.

See page 2 for collection contents.

Box 1		Minutes, membership, correspondence, programs, etc.
	Fldr 1	1949-1966
	Fldr 2	1979-1984
	Fldr 3	1985-1989
	Fldr 4	1990-1994
	Fldr 5	1995-1999
	Fldr 6	2000-2001
Box 1A	Fldr 1	2002-2003
	Fldr 2	2004-2005
	Fldr 3	2006-2009
	Fldr 4	2010-2011
Box 2	Fldr 1	Treasurer's Records 1983-1992 + List of Friends' Treasurers 1992-2011
	Fldr 2	Treasurer's Reports 1983-1991
	Fldr 3	Treasurer's Reports 1992-1999
	Fldr 4	Treasurer's Reports 2002-2011
	Fldr 5	Member Lists, Lists of Summer Residents 1946, and printed list of voters in Precinct 1, undated
	Fldr 6	Bylaws and Amendments

Box 3	Fldr 1	Book Sale 1982-
	Fldr 2	Photographs
	Fldr 2	Hospitality 1988-1992
	Fldr 3	Programs and PR
	Fldr 4	Miscellany