

History

June 14, 1919 – clipping re. opening of Library at home of Mrs. Crofut vol. III p. 138

Oct. 25, 1920 – Mrs. Kate White and Mrs. Ida Barnum transferred land to Board of Trustees for a library and community house. Mr. George Wakeman gave his legal services vol. III p. 100, p. 44

Oct. 1921 - Loan of \$500 from W. E. Mallory vol. III p. 15

Nov. 1925 – clipping, history of LRWC vol. III p. 135

Apr. 25, 1945 – historical facts vol. V p. 52

1945 – The house on Long Ridge which Miss Tibbits and Mrs. Abbott owned is no longer standing vol. V p. 52

1947 – history given by Miss Tibbits vol. IV p. 149

1949 – clipping Vol. V p. 210

History

How the town gave us
the building -

The school house formerly
was located about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile
north on Long Ridge Rd.
on the lower end of
our (Browns') property.
Mrs. Tom. H. Brown, Sr.
(deceased), my husband's
mother, used to teach
in the old school.

She was a charter member
of the Library, its 2nd
president for 7 years, its
treasurer for 7 years.

by L. Brown

?

ORIGIN OF THE LONG RIDGE WOMAN'S CLUB

for Sec. for reference

Several times during the summer of 1915 the formation of a club for the women of Long Ridge came up for discussion, but no definite action was taken.

On May 13th, 1916 after consultation with Mrs. Stuart and Mrs. Hawley we decided to take the first step at once.

Postals cards were sent to all the women along the Ridge, and immediately adjacent to it as follows:

"You are invited to attend a meeting at 3 P.M. on Friday, May 26, 1916, at Onthewing, to consider the organization of a Long Ridge Woman's Club.

Frances O. Abbott, Temporary Chairman,
Marietta J. Tibbits, " Sect."

On the day appointed the following ladies responded and organized the club as later stated in the minutes, becoming thereby charter members:

Mrs. Frances O. Abbott	Mrs. Frank Meehan
" Wm. Brown	" Emil Nardine
Miss Anna Brown	" Peter Osborne
Mrs. Leroy Blackman	" George Pattison
" Edgar Crofut	" Arthur Stuart
Mrs. John Carney	Miss Marietta J. Tibbits
" Leroy Collins	Mrs. Seth Sanford
" Joel Hawley	" Daniel Vaughn
" George Johnson	" Kate White

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING MAY 26, 1916.

There were 18 ladies present, and after much general and interesting discussion the following resolutions were adopted:

1. That we organize a club to be called "The Long Ridge Woman's Club."
2. That this be a "Travel Club" for the current year.
3. That the subject for study be Italy.
4. That the Club meet at 3 p.m. on the first and third Friday in each month.
5. That the place of meeting be Onthewing where a library for the use of all members be established.
6. That no refreshments be served at the regular meetings.

The question of dues was discussed, but could not be settled until the full membership was decided, as there were reports of many ladies unable to be present, who wished to become members.

Officers were elected: Mrs. Frances Olmstead Abbott, President; Mrs. Wm. Brown, Vice-President; Mrs. Arthur Stuart, Treasurer; Mrs. Lloyd Blackman, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Daniel Vaughn, Membership Secretary; Mrs. Edgar Crofut, Librarian.

Mrs. Abbott named as a program committee: Mrs. George Johnson, Chairman, Mrs. George Pattison, Miss Tibbits; Mrs. Abbott as president, being ex officio a member.

Meeting adjourned until June 16th.

Anna Brown, Temporary Secretary.

Items for Annual Meeting

account of first Annual Meeting of Club on page 18 of first Secretary's Book.

First meeting for organization on May 25, 1916, at home of Miss Tibbits. Woman's Club formed with 18 charter members. This makes 1944 the 28th season of the Woman's Club.

Club colors: pink and white - programs first printed in black type on pink paper.

Club flower: laurel.

Club began to collect books for a Library soon after organization, and books were housed in the home of Mrs. E.L. Crofut, Mrs. Johnson's mother.

Item from page 99 of Trustees' Book "June 14, 1919. The Long Ridge Library opens with an afternoon reception." This makes 1944 the 25th anniversary of the Library but not of the present building.

October 25, 1920, according to Warranty Deed, land for Library site transferred as gift from Mrs. Barnum and her mother, Mrs. White.

(1) March 19, 1921, by vote at Danbury Town Meeting Long Ridge schoolhouse turned over to the Long Ridge Library Association "for use as a library and community center."

First meeting of Club at Library in June, 1921.

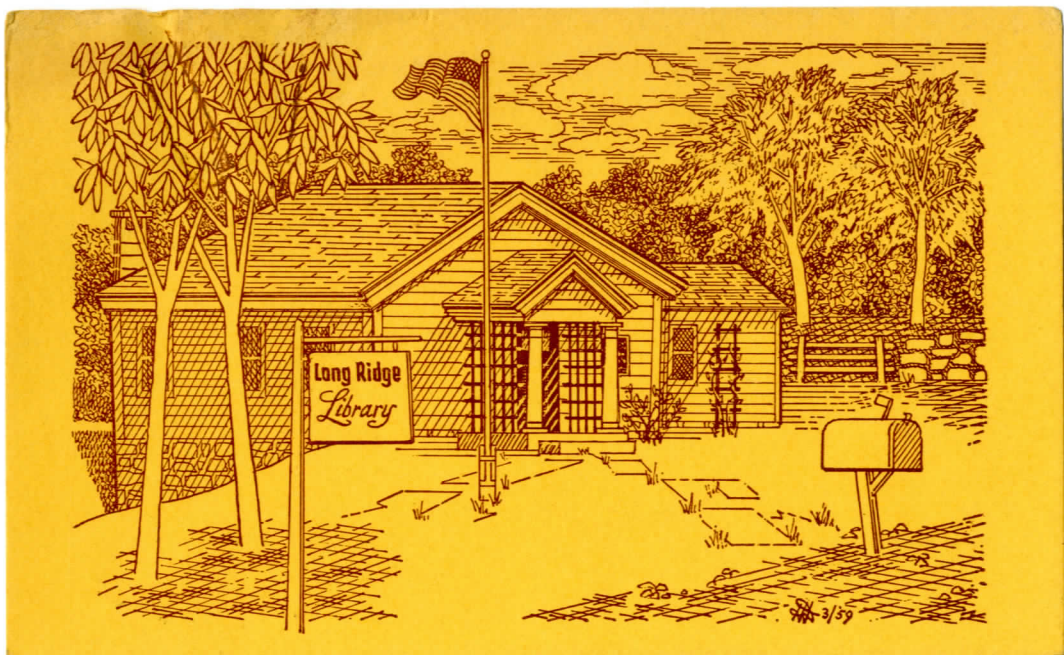
Housewarming of present Library Building, after removal to present site, alterations, etc., inviting community and all contributing to the Library Fund, held on November 1, 1922, or 22 years ago.

July 1, 1945 - Appropriation from Town of Danbury increased from \$100. to \$200. annually.

October 8, 1946 - Mrs. Johnson resigned as Librarian (because of ill health and under doctor's orders) after serving as Librarian three years while books were housed in her mother's home and continuously to date since opening of Long Ridge Library in the district schoolhouse given by Town of Danbury.

October 22, 1946 - Resignation of Mrs. Johnson accepted with regret and appreciation of her long and faithful service at meeting of Board of Trustees.

Mrs. H. Reinhardt Lewis appointed Librarian to succeed Mrs. Johnson at this meeting.



Danbury

Way back when the ladies wore
hobble skirts and automobiles were
scarce, in May 1916, two energetic
and far-sighted women, ^{invited} ~~gathered~~ a
group of neighbors ~~together~~ ^{at} their
home, "On the Wing", on Long
Ridge Road. At that ~~time~~ ^{gathering} the
Long Ridge Woman's Club was founded.
The purpose was stated as "A better
acquaintance among neighbors old and
new and a greater knowledge of
our own and other lands." The
two founders were Miss Marietta
Tillett and Mrs. Frances O.
Abbott.

At their home, their collection of
books, supplemented by 50 volumes
loaned by the N.Y. Public Library
was opened to Club members; but
it was soon realized that a larger
library was needed. In 1918 Mrs.
Edgar L. Crofut offered her home for
housing the books and a total of 630
volumes was collected. ~~But~~ In
1920 Mrs. Kate White and her daughter
Mrs. Ida Barnum transferred the
present site to the L. R. Library Assn.

A building was the next need.

~~In 1921~~ On Oct 10 1921 the Town Meeting of Danbury approved the transfer of the little Long Ridge schoolhouse, no longer used, to the library Ass'n and it was moved down the road to the present location.

Since 1922 the library has ~~been~~ ^{received} financial support from the town and the state, and the Long Ridge Woman's Club has aided greatly toward its maintenance and improvement. In 1956 the Club, with the help of friends in the community, built a much-needed new wing, which doubled shelf-space.

There are now _____ vols in the library and in 1961 the circulation reached _____, according to Miss Ruth C. Neopon, librarian. ^{Several times a year} A careful selection of new books for both adults and children is purchased.

the Club financed
In 1960, a new heating-plant and plumbing system. The Club now has

84 active members and meets seven times a year at the library. Money-raising events for library benefit are constantly held.

The library is, of course, free and is open Wed afternoons from 3 to 6 PM and Saturdays from 1:30 to 4:30 PM.

Miss K. F. Schmidt
is the current
President of the
Club and Library
Ass'n

Composed by
Miss Josephine W. Burr
and read by her
at the annual lunch-
eon of October 13, 1938
All taken care of

Copy

LONG RIDGE CLUB AND LIBRARY

ROUTE 2

DANBURY, CONNECTICUT

Reminiscences of Long Ridge

I was a school man living in

When my classmate Kate Connor went
across the sea.

I took the school at Long Ridge
quite a way from any bridge.

I taught young ideas how to shoot

Altho I was quite a young coot.

Among those who flocked in
were Barnums, many and quite
thin.

Purdys also lived near by

Enough to call them a fry.
Some Griffins too and Whites as
well,

And Crofts who thought they
were very swell

A Stuart and several Stones filled
up the gap

With Asbornes. From November until June
I went my way till done.

On Sundays in the church I sat
And listened to the preacher chat.

His teeth were not very tight,
And when he souped ink
All his night
Out they flew right upon the Bible
Which caused the choir to laugh
and giggle.

The people all were very kind
To the school mam who had a mind
To always try to do her best
And not let the children sleep
or rest.

Often when the week was done
Home they took her every one.
Now I'd come to visit you all
After fifty years.
I'm glad to find you happy
and gay
Without any tears.

Can I tell which is which,
And who the strangers are?
Let me try and you may tell me
If I've guessed wrong.

Mrs. Johnson was Mamie Crofut,
Mrs. Roth a Lulu Stone.

Mrs. Barnum as Ida White
Came to sit upon the throne.

LONG RIDGE CLUB AND LIBRARY
ROUTE 2
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT

If I look at others present.
Someone who became a wife
of their lover.

But for fear lest I go wrong
I'll not detain you very long.
I wish you one and all
A pleasant time all this fall.
(Signed) Josephine W. Beers