

## Information Sheet

**R**      **Bellevue Valley Community Association (Mo.).**  
**347**      **Records, 1927-1950.**  
            **Ten folders.**

This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri](http://The State Historical Society of Missouri). If you would like more information, please contact us at [shsresearch@umsystem.edu](mailto:shsresearch@umsystem.edu).

These are minute books and miscellaneous papers of the Bellevue Valley Community Association. The Association was formed at Caledonia, Washington County, Missouri, in 1926 to promote civic and social improvement. The minutes are complete from 13 January 1927 to the dissolution of the Association in 1950.

One hundred fifty residents of the Bellevue Valley met in Caledonia to organize the Bellevue Valley Community Association in April 1926. S. M. Rathbun was elected president. It was one of several similar clubs which were organized in the 1920s and 1930s in Washington and Iron counties, many of which were sponsored by the University of Missouri Agricultural Extension Service. Although it was not an extension club, the Bellevue Valley Community Association cooperated with other county groups. At the organization's peak in the 1930s, attendance by nearly 300 hundred people at the monthly meetings was not uncommon. The association dwindled in the late 1940s and held its last meeting in October 1950.

The association was operated through standing committees on agriculture, civics, home economics, education, and social affairs. The committees promoted 4-H clubs, home and agricultural improvements, the electrification of the Bellevue Valley, and school construction. The Association also sponsored picnics, talent shows, and the community band. Two groups founded by the association, the Caledonia and Cedar Lodge home economics clubs, continued through the 1970s.

The records of the Bellevue Community Association consist of minutes of meetings and miscellaneous notes and papers. With the exception of 1926, for which no records are available, the minutes are complete for 13 January 1927 through 14 October 1950. The minutes of the latter date end without any discussion of the association's impending demise. Among the miscellaneous papers are original notes from which minutes of meetings were transcribed, committee reports, and a few financial records.

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23 January 1985

Muriel Akers

Gift

## Shelf List

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Folders 1-8: Minutes of meetings, 1927-1950.

- Folder 1: Minute book, 13 January 1927--12 January 1928 (38 pages).
- Folder 2: Minute book, 12 January 1928--9 May 1929 (62 pages).
- Folder 3: Minute book, 11 July 1929--11 December 1930 (50 pages).
- Folder 4: Minute book, 8 January 1931--12 November 1931 (36 pages).
- Folder 5: Minute book, 10 December 1931--14 April 1938 (152 pages).
- Folder 6: Minute book, 12 May 1938--9 April 1942 (100 pages).
- Folder 7: Minute book, 19 May 1942--14 September 1944 (64 pages).

Folder 8: Minute book, 19 October 1944--14 October 1950 (176 pages).

Folders 9-10: Miscellaneous papers, 1929-1950.

Folder 9: Original notes for minutes of meetings, 1929-1931.

Folder 10: Miscellaneous papers, 1929-1950.

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*23 January 1985*

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*Gift*

**Index Cards**

Bellevue Valley Community Association (Mo.).

Caledonia (Mo.).

Civic improvement—Missouri—Washington County.

Community development—Missouri—Washington County.

Rathbun, S. M.

Rural development—Missouri—Washington County.

Washington County (Mo.).