

Archives & Manuscript Collections
National Sporting Library
Middleburg, VA

**John S. and Betty W. Donald
Papers
1940-1962**

Name: **Donald, John S. and Betty White** **MC0039**

Materials: Papers

Dates: 1940-1962 (bulk dates 1944-1948)

Volume: 1.0 cubic feet (1 document box)

Donation: Unknown

Usage: Unless otherwise stated by NSL staff, these records are open for research without restrictions.

Biographical Note

Little is known of John S. and Betty W. Donald apart from their active participation in the equestrian circles of Tennessee and North Carolina. The couple was responsible for the staging of the Johnson City (Tennessee) Horse Show from 1940 to 1944, serving as co-chairs of the event during that time. Lack of participation and interest led to the termination of the show after only five years; however, the Donalds remained involved with showing as judges for amateur shows. In addition to the horse show in Johnson City, the Donalds also were instrumental in the foundation of the Forest Park Hunt around 1942. The hounds for the hunt's kennels were acquired from various established hunts such as the Mill Creek Hunt; Richard K. Mellon of Pittsburgh even contributed two couple of English hounds.

By 1947 the Donalds had relocated to Tryon, North Carolina, where they became active in both the Tryon Hounds and the Tryon Riding and Hunt Club (the two groups co-existed but were not affiliated). They served as joint-MFH for the Tryon Hounds for the 1947-1948 season, and continued to hunt thereafter. Their horse show experience was invaluable to the Tryon Riding and Hunt Club with its annual hunter trials; Betty served as co-chair in 1951 and 1952. In addition, she and fellow hunter William Munk were responsible for a treasure hunt that became a favorite annual event for the club.

Collection Description

The John S. and Betty W. Donald Papers consist mainly of organizational papers for several of the hunting and riding groups with which the Donalds were involved. The collection has been arranged into five series: Forest Park Hunt, Johnson City Horse Show, Tryon Hounds, Tryon Riding and Hunt Club, and Personal Papers. The collection covers a relatively short span of time from 1940 to 1962, with the bulk of the materials being dated between 1944 and 1948.

Series and Subseries

- I. **Forest Park Hunt, 1942** **2 folders**
Consists of correspondence and a ledger of information on various hounds acquired by the hunt, including hunting descriptions and breeding results.
- II. **Johnson City Horse Show, 1940-1945** **6 folders**
Materials include correspondence conducting business for the shows, drafts of entry lists and programs used for the annual show, as well as the finished programs. Also includes newspaper clippings which describe the show and its results. Several photographs were included with the materials, but have not been conclusively identified as being from the horse show.
- III. **Tryon Hounds, 1942-1958** **6 folders**
The majority of these materials are records of hunt business such as minutes and correspondence from the 1947-1948 season. Also includes a hunting diary, ledgers of information on the hunters used, and newspaper clippings regarding hunt meets.
- IV. **Tryon Riding and Hunting Club, 1950-1962** **14 folders**
 - A. **General Business**
Consists mainly of minutes from meetings of the club's directors and subscribers. Also included is a copy of the club's articles of incorporation from 1960.
 - B. **Hunter Trials**
Materials include mostly entry lists (with some score markings) and newspaper clippings with trial results.
 - C. **Treasure Hunts**
Consists of original invitations and RSVPs (all written in rhyme), as well as the locations and clues for the hunts over a period of three years.
- V. **Personal Papers, 1940-1961** **11 folders**
 - A. **Horse Shows and Races**
Comprised of advertising and programs for miscellaneous steeplechases and shows which were scattered throughout the rest of the collection. Scoring sheets for an unknown jumper trials event is also included.
 - B. **Scrapbook Materials**
Materials from scrapbooks on Dundee (a Connemara pony) and White's Folly (a mare), as well as miscellaneous clippings on equestrian topics. The materials have been removed from the actual albums for purposes of preservation.

**Container List
MC0039**

I. Forest Park Hunt, 1942

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
J43	39	Ledger book of data on hounds	1942
J43	40	Correspondence re: hound acquisitions	1942

II. Johnson City Horse Show, 1940-1945

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
J43	41	Correspondence re: general business	1944-1945
J43	42	Drafts for programs and entry lists	1944
J43	43	Newspaper clippings	1944
J43	44	Programs and prize lists	1940-1944
J43	45	Programs for other horse shows	1941-1945
J43	46	Unidentified photographs	c1944

III. Tryon Hounds, 1942-1958

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
J43	47	Correspondence re: hunt business	1947-1948
J43	48	Hunting diary	1947-1948
J43	49	Ledgers of hunter data	1946-1948
J43	50	Mailings and fixture cards	1942-1958
J43	51	Newspaper clippings	1947-1948
J43	52	Reports and minutes	1946-1958

IV. Tryon Riding and Hunting Club, 1950-1962**A. General Business**

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
J43	53	Articles of incorporation	1960
J43	54	Minutes of meetings	1959
J43	55	Minutes of meetings	1960
J43	56	Minutes of meetings	1961
J43	57	Minutes of meetings	1962

B. Hunter Trials

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
J43	58	Entry lists	undated
J43	59	Entry lists	1950
J43	60	Entry lists, correspondence, clippings	1951
J43	61	Entry lists, correspondence, clippings	1952
J43	62	Entry lists	1953-1955
J43	63	List of classes at other trials	c1950

**Container List
MC0039
(cont.)**

IV. Tryon Riding and Hunting Club, 1950-1962 (cont.)

C. Treasure Hunts

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
J43	64	Locations and clues	1951-1953
J43	65	Invitations and RSVPs	1952-1953
J43	66	Bills	1952-1953

V. Personal Papers, 1940-1961

A. Horse Shows and Races

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
J43	67	Steeplechase programs and results	1940-1950
J43	68	Scoresheets for unknown jumper trials	c1945
J43	69	Miscellaneous notes for judging	c1950

B. Scrapbook Materials

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Dates</u>
J43	70	White's Folly - correspondence	1945
J43	71	White's Folly - pedigree charts	c1945
J43	72	White's Folly - show and race results	1945
J43	73	White's Folly - photographs	c1945
J43	74	Dundee - photographs	1961
J43	75	Dundee - miscellaneous	1961
J43	76	Miscellaneous clippings	1940-1946
L54	02	White's Folly - large scrapbook pages	1945

This collection was processed by Michele M. Tourney, August 2004.