

HISTORY OF ALPHA CLUB  
Burlington, Washington.

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Organized January 8, 1910.

Federated with State Federation, April 10, 1910.

Joined Skagit Co. Fed. of W.C. January 24, 1914.  
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The Burlington Free Public Library was organized by the ALPHA CLUB and opened to the public February 1, 1911, and a reading room maintained in connection with it. Books were donated by the citizens and new books were purchased with funds raised by the clubs by entertainments every year since. The club members took turns donating their services as librarian and janitor until a READING and REST ROOM ASSOCIATION was organized and the caretaker could also be made librarian. The books and furniture were turned over to this association September 6, 1912, but the ALPHA CLUB continued its yearly contributions of books and magazines. As soon as the New Carnegie Library is completed, the library will pass over to the city, probably by August, 1916.

The club conducted the first clean up campaign April, 1910, and has assisted in a similar undertaking every year since. It has been instrumental by petitions to the council in having several unsanitary conditions rectified and induced the School Board to install sanitary drinking fountains in both high and grade school buildings. A committee from the ALPHA CLUB secured the funds for a public drinking fountain on the street. Petitions were circulated to shut up cows and chickens and keep them off of the streets. A petition was circulated calling for a special election to

to vote a tax for Domestic Science and Manual Training in the public schools.

Play ground equipment was placed on the grade school grounds and five dollars contributed toward tennis grounds on the high school grounds. Five dollars were contributed for a picture for the high school building, and ten dollars toward the cleaning of the Park site.

Contributions have been made toward the anti-tuberculosis league for the care of children at the Orthopedic hospital, the State Endowment Funds, the Educational Loan Fund of the W.S.F. W.C., offered prizes for bird houses, best kept gardens, lawns, parking strips and tulip beds.

Our members worked up a class of sixty-eight to bring Miss Mary F. Rousch to Burlington to hold a Housekeepers' school for a week, given under the auspices of the Parent-Teachers' Association. We have thrown our influence and energies into all community interests, like Community Christmas trees, Civic Conference, county fair, and other celebrations not listed as ALPHA CLUB undertakings.

We give a fine musical program each year at an open meeting. We have usually had miscellaneous programs covering a variety of subjects, including current events, history of the Northwest, studied George Elliott's *Romala* one year, customs of many countries, laws pertaining to women, Juvenile Court history and biography.