



ArchivesSpace

## **Feminist Spiritual Community records, 1975-2017, undated**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Maine Women Writers Collection

Abplanalp Library  
University of New England  
716 Stevens Avenue  
Portland, Maine 04103  
[cmiller10@une.edu](mailto:cmiller10@une.edu)  
URL: <http://www.une.edu/mwwc>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Maine Women Writers Collection
<b>Creator:</b>	Feminist Spiritual Community
<b>Title:</b>	Feminist Spiritual Community records
<b>ID:</b>	0107
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1971-2017
<b>Physical Description:</b>	16 linear feet
<b>Physical Location:</b>	The Feminist Spiritual Community records are temporarily housed in the basement of the Abplanalp Library, University of New England, Portland Campus, 716 Stevens Avenue, Portland, Maine 04103.
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English

### Preferred Citation

Feminist Spiritual Community records, Maine Women Writers Collection, University of New England, Portland, Maine

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## Biographical / Historical

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The Feminist Spiritual Community was born in June 1980. The Community formed after Professor Eleanor Haney's course Women in Religion at the University of Southern Maine in the spring of 1980. About fifteen students, half the students in the course, chose to continue meeting after the course ended.

Haney wrote a proposal to the United Church of Christ to fund the Community for three years. It was the first time that a regional Protestant church body funded an alternative spiritual community with no expectation of its becoming Christian.

The Community gathered on Monday nights at a series of locations around Portland. The last venue was the Maine Jewish Museum on Congress Street. The Community was a completely volunteer organization made up of a tiered membership (Members, Participants, and Friends). Members sat on a variety of committees and task forces.

The Community organized many events throughout Maine, including the grant-funded 1986 Conference on Women and Power, as well as ten and twenty year retreats. In 1993, Astarte Shell Press grew out of FSC as a book publisher of feminist, spiritual literature. In 1993, Brigit McCallum wrote her doctoral thesis on the Community.

The Community dissolved in 2016.

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## Scope and Contents

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The collection consists of meeting notes, which discuss the Community's decision-making process, as well as financial documents, newsletters, and by-laws. There are many examples of rituals the Community performed and various objects used in these rituals. The collection contains documents pertaining to the Community's Women and Power Conference, as well as their 10th and 20th anniversary retreats, and documents pertaining to the Community's publishing arm, Astarte Shell Press. In the Resources series, there are many sources of information pertaining to feminist spiritual movements across Maine and the nation.

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## Arrangement

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The collection is organized into the following twelve series: I. Financial; II. Membership; III. Personnel; IV. Meeting Minutes; V. Newsletters; VI. Correspondence; VII. FSC Herstory; VIII. Rituals; IX. Photos; X. Astarte Shell Press; XI. Events; XII. Resources.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

Maine Women Writers Collection

Abplanalp Library  
University of New England

716 Stevens Avenue  
Portland, Maine 04103  
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URL: <http://www.une.edu/mwwc>

## Conditions Governing Use

For permission to reproduce or publish, please contact the Curator of the Maine Women Writers Collection.

## Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Feminism
- Spirituality
- Portland (Me.)
- Newsletters
- Rituals
- Astrology
- Spiritual retreats for women
- Feminist Spiritual Community
- Astarte Shell Press

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## Collection Inventory

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### Financial, 1978-2015

#### Scope and Contents

The series contains yearly financial records from the FSC, which includes receipts for individual items purchased for rituals and meetings, etc., as well as bank statements, investment information, loan receipts, tax information, non-profit status, and general financial strategy.

Title/Description	Instances
Early Feminist Spiritual Community receipts, 1978-1985, undated	Box 1 Folder 001
Non-profit status, 1983-2004	

	Box 1	Folder 002
Yearly Financial Records, 1984	Box 1	Folder 003
Yearly Financial Reports, 1985	Box 1	Folder 004
Key Bank, 1986-2004	Box 1	Folder 005
Financial crisis with tax status of paid coordinator, 1985-1987	Box 1	Folder 006
Feminist Spiritual Community Investment Committee, 1985-1986	Box 1	Folder 007
Yearly Financial Records, 1986	Box 1	Folder 008
Delores Cole's travel info and receipts, 1986-1989	Box 1	Folder 009
Yearly Financial Records, 1986-1987	Box 1	Folder 010
Tax Information, 1987-2016	Box 1	Folder 011
FSC loans, 1987-2011	Box 1	Folder 012
Yearly Financial Records, 1989	Box 1	Folder 013
Yearly Financial Records, 1990-1991	Box 1	Folder 014
Calvert Funds, 1991-1999	Box 1	Folder 015
Yearly Financial Records, 1992	Box 1	Folder 016
Yearly Financial Records, 1993	Box 1	Folder 017
Yearly Financial Records, 1994	Box 1	Folder 018
Yearly Financial Records, 1995-1997	Box 1	Folder 019
Financial Policies, 1997-2005	Box 1	Folder 020
Yearly Financial Records, 1998-1999	Box 1	Folder 021
Yearly Financial Records, 2000-2003	Box 1	Folder 022
Yearly Financial Records, 2004	Box 1	Folder 023
Gorham Savings Bank, 2004-2015	Box 1	Folder 024
Yearly Financial Records, 2005-2008	Box 1	Folder 025
Yearly Financial Records, 2009-2015	Box 1	Folder 026
Economic Justice for Women project grant, 1984	Box 1	Folder 027

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## Membership, 1985-2014, undated

## Scope and Contents

The series contains membership lists, including email addresses and telephone numbers of FSC members throughout the years. It also contains copies and drafts of the new Member Handbook, as well as various other introductory material, including questionnaires.

Title/Description	Instances	
Membership lists, 1985-1990	Box 1	Folder 001
Membership directory cards, 1986, undated	Box 1	Folder 002
Member's handbook, 1989-1995	Box 1	Folder 003
New member information, 1989-2008, undated	Box 1	Folder 004
Membership lists, 1994-1996	Box 1	Folder 005
Membership lists, 1997-1999	Box 1	Folder 006
Membership lists, 2000-2005	Box 1	Folder 007
Membership lists, 2007-2009	Box 1	Folder 008
Membership lists, 2010-2013	Box 1	Folder 009
Membership lists, undated	Box 1	Folder 010
FSC Questionnaire, undated	Box 1	Folder 011
Commitment sheets, 1984-1998	Box 1	Folder 012
Committee members lists, 1990-2007, undated	Box 1	Folder 013
Committee members lists, 1990-2007, undated	Box 1	Folder 013
Committee descriptions, 1993-1997, undated	Box 1	Folder 014

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## Personnel, 1979-1996

### Scope and Contents

The series contains material about a FSC internship, as well as position descriptions for the coordinator position. It also contains personnel information for Sapphire and Dolores Cole.

Title/Description	Instances	
Delores Cole, 1979, undated	Box 1	Folder 001
Internships, 1985-1989	Box 1	Folder 002
FSC Coordinator position, 1986-1987	Box 1	Folder 003
Sapphire, 1992-1996	Box 1	Folder 004

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## Meeting Minutes, 1983-2016

Title/Description	Instances	
Yearly minutes, 1983-1985	Box 1	Folder 001
Yearly minutes, 1986-1987	Box 1	Folder 002
Yearly minutes, 1988-1990	Box 1	Folder 003
Yearly minutes, 1991-1994	Box 2	Folder 004
Yearly minutes, 1995-1998	Box 2	Folder 005
Yearly minutes, 1999-2003	Box 2	Folder 006
Yearly minutes, 2004-2007	Box 2	Folder 007
Yearly minutes, 2008-2011	Box 2	Folder 008
Yearly minutes, 2012-2016	Box 2	Folder 009
Yearly minutes, undated	Box 2	Folder 010

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## Newsletters, 1982-2014

Title/Description	Instances	
Newsletters, 1982-1990	Box 2	Folder 001
Newsletters, 1990-1995	Box 2	Folder 002
Newsletters, 1996-2014	Box 2	Folder 003

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## Correspondence, 1982-2014, undated

Title/Description	Instances	
General correspondence, 1982-1989	Box 2	Folder 001
from Elly Haney, 1982-1984	Box 2	Folder 002
from Brigit McCallum, 1989-2014	Box 2	Folder 003
General correspondence, 1990-1994	Box 2	Folder 004
General correspondence, 1995-2000	Box 2	Folder 005
from Debbie Leighton, 1996	Box 2	Folder 006



from Diane Eiker, 1997-2014	Box 2	Folder 007
from Delores Lanai, 2000-2013, undated	Box 2	Folder 008
from Carolyn Gage, 2001-2003	Box 2	Folder 009
General correspondence, 2001-2005	Box 2	Folder 010
General correspondence, 2006-2009	Box 2	Folder 011
General correspondence, including quilt raffle, 2010-2014	Box 2	Folder 012
General correspondence, undated	Box 2	Folder 013

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## FSC Herstory, 1982-2014, undated

Title/Description	Instances	
Newspaper articles & announcements, 1982-2014	Box 2	Folder 001
Organizational accomplishments, 1982-1987, undated	Box 2	Folder 002
Brigit's FSC Herstory, 1990-1993	Box 2	Folder 003
FSC Herstory from Brigit McCallum's research, 1992-1996	Box 2	Folder 004
Organizational accomplishments, 1996-2011	Box 2	Folder 005
By-laws, 2000-2007, undated	Box 2	Folder 006
Letterhead originals, undated	Box 2	Folder 007
FSC brochure originals, undated	Box 2	Folder 008
Weekly Welcome + Herstory, 2013	Box 2	Folder 009

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## Rituals, 1975-2014, undated

Title/Description	Instances	
International Women's Day poster, 1975	Box 2	Folder 001
Inner Vision Quest, 1985	Box 2	Folder 002
Wreath, 1985	Box 2	Folder 003
Ceremonies & Gatherings, 1987-1990	Box 2	Folder 004
Ceremonies & Gatherings, 1989-2009, undated	Box 2	Folder 005
Healing Circles, 1991	Box 2	Folder 006
Ceremonies & Gatherings, 1991-1997	Box 2	Folder 007

Talent Night, 1993-1997	Box 2	Folder 008
Painted white cloth, 1994	Box 2	Folder 009
Membership, 1996-1999, undated	Box 2	Folder 010
Ceremonies & Gatherings, 1998-2003	Box 2	Folder 011
Women's History, 1998-2002	Box 2	Folder 012
White cloth with rainbow stripes, 1999	Box 2	Folder 013
20th Anniversary cloth, 2000	Box 2	Folder 014
Feminist Process Consensus, 2003, undated	Box 2	Folder 015
Ceremonies & Gatherings, 2004-2007	Box 2	Folder 016
"I Wonder If...", 2005	Box 2	Folder 017
Imbolc, 2005-2008	Box 2	Folder 018
Days of Nights calendar, 2006	Box 3	Folder 019
Ceremonies & Gatherings, 2009-2014	Box 3	Folder 020
30th Anniversary cloth, 2010	Box 3	Folder 021
Ceremonies & Gatherings, undated	Box 3	Folder 022
<b>Woman Bowl, 1992</b>	Box 3	Folder 023
Crone candle base + candle, 2012	Box 3	Folder 024
"Worship in Process" sign, undated	Box 3	Folder 025
pink t-shirt, undated	Box 3	Folder 027
Offerings basket, undated	Box 3	Folder 027
Circle Me Sisters candle + base, undated	Box 3	Folder 028
Star-shaped candle bases (3), undated	Box 3	Folder 029
25-year anniversary stones (6), undated	Box 3	Folder 030
General ritual supplies, undated	Box 3	Folder 031
Multi-colored crocheted blanket, undated	Box 3	Folder 032
Teal blanket/spread, undated	Box 3	Folder 033
Hand-colored canvas dropcloth, undated	Box 3	Folder 034
Hand-stitched multi-colored cloth, undated	Box 3	Folder 035
Painted leather cloth, undated	Box 3	Folder 036
Purple banner, undated	Box 3	Folder 037
FSC circular ribbon ceremony skirt, undated	Box 3	Folder 038
Bowl with cardinal directions, undated		

	Box 3	Folder 039
Traveling hat, undated	Box 3	Folder 040
Round candle holder, undated	Box 3	Folder 041
Womens lives visor, undated	Box 3	Folder 042
Ritual ribbons, undated	Box 3	Folder 043
Voting plates and cards, undated	Box 3	Folder 044
Two dolls, undated	Box 3	Folder 045
Bell, undated	Box 3	Folder 046
Candle snuffer, undated	Box 3	Folder 047
Small purple rectangular cloth, undated	Box 3	Folder 048
Square canvas drop cloth, undated	Box 3	Folder 049
Dark purple velour cloth, undated	Box 3	Folder 050
Various buttons, undated	Box 3	Folder 051

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## Photos, 1980-2000, undated

Title/Description	Instances	
"Photos for FSC to label (ERA, Take Back the Night), 1980, undated	Box 3	Folder 001
Photos and negatives from S. Bellas, 2000	Box 3	Folder 002
Photos in Ganesh card, undated	Box 3	Folder 003
Feet by candlelight black and white, 1996	Box 3	Folder 004
Brigit McCallum headshot black and white, undated	Box 3	Folder 005
Photocopies of FSC members, undated	Box 3	Folder 006
Astarte Shell Press staff, undated	Box 3	Folder 007

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## Astarte Shell Press, 1989-1997

Title/Description	Instances	
Astarte astrology reading, 1989	Box 3	Folder 001
Articles about Astarte Shell, 1989-1997	Box 3	Folder 002
Operational plan, 1989-1993	Box 3	Folder 003

Astarte Shell Press letter to subscribers, 1989-1998	Box 3	Folder 004
Vision and Struggle by Eleanor Haney, 1990	Box 3	Folder 005
Limited partners info, 1990-1993	Box 3	Folder 006
Diane Eiker on sidewalk with flag at Union Theological Seminary, 1991	Box 3	Folder 007
Catalogs and newsletters, 1991-1997, undated	Box 3	Folder 008
balance sheets, 1992-1993	Box 3	Folder 009
Astarte Shell tax return (torn to pieces), 1993	Box 3	Folder 010
Royalties, sales, and financials, 1993-1997	Box 3	Folder 011
Astarte Shell Press minutes, 1993-1997	Box 3	Folder 012
Press releases, 1993-1998	Box 3	Folder 013
By laws, 1993	Box 3	Folder 014
Restoring the Orchard: A Guide to Learning Intuition by Margaret Blanchard, 1994	Box 3	Folder 015
Annual report, 1994-1995	Box 3	Folder 016
Mailing addresses, 1995, undated	Box 3	Folder 017
Tax returns, 1995-1996	Box 3	Folder 016
Grants and donations, 1995-1997	Box 3	Folder 019
Notes from LPC meeting, 1996	Box 3	Folder 020
Calendar, 1996	Box 3	Folder 021
Damaged/Remainders, 1996	Box 3	Folder 022
LPC distribution info, 1996	Box 3	Folder 023
Handwritten Astarte Shell minutes, 1996-1997	Box 3	Folder 024
Cease publishing letter, 1997	Box 3	Folder 025
Master agreement between Feminist Spiritual Community and Astarte Shell Press, 1997	Box 3	Folder 026
Letterhead, undated	Box 3	Folder 027
Astarte Shell research, undated	Box 3	Folder 028
Reader survey, undated	Box 3	Folder 029
Astarte Shell history/herstory, undated	Box 3	Folder 030
Manuscripts guidelines, undated	Box 3	Folder 031

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## Events, 1982-2016

Title/Description	Instances		
Classes and workshops, 1982-1991, undated	Box 3	Folder 001	
Peacemobile project, 1982, undated	Box 3	Folder 002	
Bread & Roses, 1984-1985	Box 3	Folder 003	
Concessions info, 1984-1985, undated	Box 3	Folder 004	
Volksmarsh, 1984-1985	Box 3	Folder 005	
Alternative Holiday Gifts Auction, 1984-1991	Box 3	Folder 006	Folder 007
20th Anniversary retreat scrapbook, 1985-2000	Box 3	Folder 008	Folder 009
	Box 3	Folder 010	Folder 011
Molly Scott concert, 1985	Box 3	Folder 012	
Concerts, 1985, undated	Box 3	Folder 013	
Kay Gardener cruise, 1986	Box 3	Folder 014	
Women & Power Conference, 1986	Box 3	Folder 015	Folder 016
Women & Power Conference evaluations, 1986	Box 3	Folder 017	
Women & Power Conference, Maine Humanities Council grant application, 1986	Box 3	Folder 018	
El Salvador trip, 1988-1989	Box 3	Folder 019	
10th Anniversary celebration , 1989-1990	Box 4	Folder 020	Folder 021
Eddita's release from prison party, 1990	Box 4	Folder 022	
Our Paper (newspaper), 1990	Box 4	Folder 023	
Birthday celebrations, 1991-1999	Box 4	Folder 024	
Maine Humanities Council May Sarton film event, 1993	Box 4	Folder 025	
The Vagina Monologues, 1999	Box 4	Folder 026	
20th Anniversary binder, 2000	Box 4	Folder 027	Folder 028
Memorial services, 2008-2014	Box 4	Folder 029	
Crone class info, 2015-2016	Box 4	Folder 030	

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## Resources, 1971-2017

Title/Description	Instances		
How to Clean Seashells pamphlet, 1971	Box 4	Folder 001	

Doonesbury cartoon, 1975	Box 4	Folder 002	
Organization of affinity, 1978-2008, undated	Box 4	Folder 003	Folder 004
Women Circles programs, 1980-1989	Box 4	Folder 005	
<b>Retreat notebook, 1981-1988</b>	Box 4	Folder 006	
Dean genealogy, 1982-2013	Box 4	Folder 007	
non-FSC newsletters, 1984-1985	Box 4	Folder 008	
Teal notebook, 1985-1991	Box 4	Folder 009	
June & July calendar pages, 1987	Box 4	Folder 010	
Poems, songs, and texts, 1988-2006, undated	Box 4	Folder 011	Folder 012
Blue notebook, 1988-1991	Box 4	Folder 013	
Calendars, 1989-2013	Box 4	Folder 014	
Green notebook, 1989	Box 4	Folder 015	
Women Circles programs, 1990-1999	Box 4	Folder 016	
Feminist Spiritual Collective member book (illustrated), 1990-2012, undated	Box 4	Folder 017	
Celebrating Women's Spirituality Calendar, 1990	Box 4	Folder 018	
Shifting Horizons: A Study in Feminist Ritual Theology by Charlotte Caron, 1991	Box 4	Folder 019	
Moonday calendar, 1991	Box 4	Folder 020	
Healing Therapies conference, 1991	Box 4	Folder 021	
11th Anniversary notebook, 1991	Box 5	Folder 022	
Brigit McCallum's thesis on FSC, 1993	Box 5	Folder 023	
Women & Aging: Discovering Our Journey through Fairy Tale (AWP Workshop), 1993	Box 5	Folder 024	
Portland-area resources, 1996-2006, undated	Box 5	Folder 025	
Art & images, 1996-2004, undated	Box 5	Folder 026	
Periodicals, 1997	Box 5	Folder 027	
White notebook, 1998-2011	Box 5	Folder 028	
Women's Rights Movement at 150 years, Seneca, NY, 1998	Box 5	Folder 029	Folder 030
Women Circle resources, 1999-2000, undated	Box 5	Folder 031	
Simple Abundance datebook, 2000	Box 5	Folder 032	
Women Circle programs, 2000-2009	Box 5	Folder 033	
Animals notebook, 2001	Box 5	Folder 034	

Maine Well-Being Magazine, 2005-2008	Box 5	Folder 035	
Maps, 2006-2010, undated	Box 5	Folder 036	
Astrology, 2006-2007, undated	Box 5	Folder 037	
Owl "Lady D" artwork, 2008	Box 5	Folder 038	
Lesbian Connection catalog, 2008	Box 5	Folder 039	
Recipes, 2008, undated	Box 5	Folder 040	
Informed consent sheet, 2009	Box 5	Folder 041	
Pocket planner, 2011	Box 5	Folder 042	
Handwritten notes, 2012	Box 5	Folder 043	
Portland Buy Local Guide, 2016-2017	Box 5	Folder 044	
Loose sheet music, undated	Box 5	Folder 045	Folder 046
Sheet music booklets, undated	Box 5	Folder 047	Folder 048
Runes Decoder, undated	Box 5	Folder 049	
Jewish tradition explanation, undated	Box 5	Folder 050	
Gail Karger cassette tape, undated	Box 5	Folder 051	
Red paper with Chinese characters	Box 5	Folder 052	
Weaving Connections: Resources for Celebration & Solidarity, undated	Box 5	Folder 053	
"Survival Kit", undated	Box 5	Folder 054	

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