DATE: May 9, 1984             DONOR: Sarah Boering

FILE ENTRY: Alpine Chamber of Commerce , 1907-
TITLE: ALPINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PAPERS 1933-
1978 and n.d.

SPECIAL NOTES:

DESCRIPTION:
ITEMS: 

QUANTITY: 6,389

LEAVES:

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CONTENT:

ARRANGEMENT:

Correspondence, 1955-1977 and n.d. (272 leaves)
Financial Documents, 1971-1976 and n.d. (1 unbound, 14 leaves) (14 leaves)
Maps, n.d. (3 leaves)
Records, 1956-1976 and n.d. (301 leaves)
Printed Material, 1968-1978 (10 unbound, 103 leaves) (58 leaves)
General Files, 1933-1978 and n.d. (70 unbound, 700 leaves) (4,896 leaves)

Inventoried By: Barry D. Smith  Typed By: Chris Cochran
Approve d By: Ken Perry
COLLECTION SUMMARY

for the

ALPINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PAPERS

The Alpine Chamber of Commerce Papers were donated to the Archives of the Big Bend by Sarah Boering on March 18, May 6, and November 9, 1982. The collection contains the business records for the Alpine Chamber of Commerce. The collection consists of three cubic feet of material.

The Alpine Chamber of Commerce was first organized in 1907 under the name of the Alpine Business Men's Club. The club was organized to secure certain improvements for the community using the combined efforts of the business men. One of the first items was the creation of Alpine Independent School District and the construction of a new school building. During the summer of 1909 the Alpine Business Men's Club made arrangements for the Dry Farming Conference to be held in Alpine. Benjamin F. Berkeley was president of the Alpine Business Men's Club at this time.

In October of 1909 the club met and reorganized. The name was changed to the Alpine Commercial Club, and new officers were elected. The president was J. L. Crawford; secretary, W. L. Yates and the executive committee members were: S. A. Starr, F. E. Gillett, C. C. Hurley, J. D. Jackson and H. C. Philips. The club didn't have the money to rent an office, so W. L. Yates, who owned the Alpine Avalanche, agreed to let them meet in the Alpine Avalanche office. A three-man committee, consisting of A. M. Turney, B. F. Berkeley and S. A. Starr, was appointed at this time, to solicit monthly donations from the membership. These monthly donations, which ranged from 50¢ to $5.00, were used for the operation of the club and to hire a paid secretary. The committee had secured 87 pledges for monthly payments within two weeks. In November of 1910 the club was able to advertise for a paid secretary. They also rented a room in the rear of the R. B. Slight Drug Store at this time.

During November of 1910 new officers were elected. J. D. Jackson was president, H. C. Philips, vice president and W. J. Yates, temporary secretary. The new directors were: H. S. Wigle, W. Van Sickle, J. L. Crawford, S. A. Starr and F. E. Gillett.

In January of 1912 the accomplishments of the Alpine Commercial Club included the promotion of the summer normal, aided in the routing of the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient Railroad to Alpine by raising $25,000, a bonus to be paid to promoters of the railroad, getting the Rio Wax Factory to establish here and the provision of an exhibit at the International Fair in San Antonio. The Alpine Commercial Club was also very active in advertising through the use of illustrated bulletins on the area. During 1919, the club had sent out a total of five thousand illustrated bulletins. Membership at the time was 58, but had risen to 74 members by the end of January.
During World War I the Alpine Commercial Club kept its work confined mainly to war-related problems. In 1917, the Alpine Commercial Club began efforts to secure a permanent normal college in Alpine. These efforts came as a follow-up to the Alpine Summer Normal. A delegation, financed by the club, went to Austin to lobby for the project. On April 4, 1917, Governor James Ferguson signed the Normal Bill into law.

During March of 1920 the Alpine Commercial Club changed its name to the Brewster County Chamber of Commerce. In the 1920's the main focus of the Chamber of Commerce was the development of Sul Ross Normal College, the development of an improved water-sewer system for Alpine, the lighting, paving and marking of Alpine streets, and the development of good roads in the area.

During the first twenty-five years some of the members included J. D. Jackson, B. F. Berkeley, J. E. Casner, Dr. J. E. Wright. Col. John Perkins, Shirley Scales, Dr. H.W. Morelock, T. A. Beard, Jim P. Wilson, Nig Bennett, Clay Holland, A. F. (Forrest) Robinson, H. W. (Homer) Ferguson and Clarence Hord.

In 1938 the Brewster County Chamber of Commerce changed its name to the Alpine Chamber of Commerce. At this time also, a new constitution and bylaws were adopted. On September 29, 1949, the Alpine Chamber of Commerce was incorporated according to the Texas State laws. During the 1950's the major projects of the Alpine Chamber of Commerce were the construction of the new Alpine Community Center and improvements of major highways in the area.

The Collection is housed in three Archival boxes, with the material being arranged in file folders. The bulk of the material is found in General Files, which contains information on some of the activities of the Alpine Chamber of Commerce and the community. Some of these activities include Fourth of July celebrations, Terlingua Chili Cook-Off, Alpine Chamber of Commerce banquets, and Theater of the Big Bend. General Files also contains minutes for meetings which date from 1934 to 1971. The file titles for the General Files are the original titles. The majority of the material in the collection dates from 1970 to 1976. The collection contains information concerning community improvement and the promotion of tourism in the area.

By: Chris Cochran
Archival Assistant

May 9, 1984

Sources Used:
Alpine Avalanche
Clifford B. Casey Collection 1882-1981
Box #1

CORRESPONDENCE 1955-1977 and n.d. (272 leaves)

General Correspondence topics include activities between the Alpine Chamber of Commerce officers and members, tourist development, requests for information about using Alpine as a meeting place for varied events and organizations, notices of Chamber of Commerce activities, requests for information on Alpine as a retirement area, Sul Ross student enrollment, prospects of Alpine's maintaining a film industry, business interests concerning Alpine Chamber of Commerce, West Texas Chamber of Commerce, and the United States Chamber of Commerce. Of note is a 1972 request from Governor Preston Smith for input on a special legislative session dealing with insurance rates, a follow-up by the Alpine Chamber of Commerce on the movie industry through the Texas Film Commission, and request, reply and plans between the Alpine Chamber of Commerce and the Texas Highway Department for repair of Highway 118.

Folder #1, 1955-1973, 184 leaves

Folder #2, 1975-1977 and n.d., 8.8 leaves

FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS 1971-1976 and n.d. (1 unbound, 14 leaves) (14 leaves)

Financial Documents consist of the Alpine Chamber of Commerce 1976 budget, financial statements and check stubs. Of note is an Alpine Community Audit and figures concerning the 5th [4th] of July Kiwanis Club Celebration.

Folder #3, 1971-1976 and n.d., 1 unbound, 14 leaves, 14 leaves

MAPS n.d. (3 leaves)

Maps include a tourist map title "Wonderful West Texas," a map of Sweetwater, Texas, and an advertisement map of Fort Stockton and Pecos County.

Folder #4, n.d., 3 leaves

RECORDS 1956-1976 and n.d. (301 leaves)

Records are made up of various reports, lists, surveys, and notes. Of interest are reports on the Wilderness Proposal for Big Bend National Park, a Federal land lease in Alpine, and Air Tours' lists of new members, Alpine Chamber of Commerce Committees, and hunting leases;
surveys on constitutional amendments to the West Texas Chamber of Commerce and a Climatological Summary of the Alpine area.

Folder #5, 1968-1972, 71 leaves
Folder #6, 1973-1976, 100 leaves
Folder #7, n.d., 130 leaves
Printed Material consists of pamphlets, programs, articles, announcements, newspapers and periodicals. Of interest are programs for West Texas Chamber of Commerce conventions; articles about Alpine and the Big Bend, ROTC and World War II, and the Copper Canyon Tour in Mexico; announcements of the dedication of Big Bend National Park and Guadalupe Mountain National Park and the reactivation of the West Texas Historical Society; the Spanish newspaper *El Polvorín*; and periodicals *Naturalists* and *This Is West Texas*.

Folder #8, 1968-1978, 10 unbound, 103 leaves, 58 leaves

GENERAL FILES 1933-1978 and n.d. (70 unbound, 700 leaves) (4,896 leaves)

Folder #9, Activities (Fourth of July), 1972-1977 and n.d., 53 leaves
Folder #10, Air Tour, October 14, 1969, 1969 and n.d., 1 unbound, 16 leaves, 7 leaves
Folder #11, City of Alpine, 1971-1977 and n.d., 36 leaves
Folder #12, Alpine Development Association, 1974 and n.d., 6 leaves
Folder #13, Alpine Independent School District, 1975, 2 leaves
Folder #14, Alpine Information, 1968-1974 and n.d., 36 leaves
Folder #15, American Cancer Society, 1973 and n.d., 59 leaves
Folder #16, Amtrack 1970-1971 and n.d., 2 unbound, 32 leaves, 26 leaves
Folder #17, Audit, 1970-1975, 20 unbound, 106 leaves, 4 leaves
Folder #18, Bands, 1973-1975 and n.d., 25 leaves
Folder #19, Banquet, 1970-1972 and n.d., 170 leaves
Folder #20, Annual Banquet, 1973-1977 and n.d., 141 leaves
Folder #21, Banquet s, n.d., 62 leaves
Folder #22, Beautify Texas Council, 1978, 51 leaves
Folder #23, Big Bend Players, 1975 and n.d., 28 leaves
Folder #24, Big Bend Tennis Association, n.d., 9 leaves
Folder #25, Bowling Alley, 1973 and n.d., 5 unbound, 52 leaves, 16 leaves
Folder #26, Cans Collection, 1971-1975 and n.d., 1 unbound, 6 leaves, 7 leaves
Folder #27, Census Information, 1970 and n.d., 6 leaves
Folder #28, Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute, 1973-1977 and n.d., 5 unbound, 31 leaves, 114 leaves
Folder #29, Chili Cook-off, 1972-1973, 40 leaves
Folder #30, City Hall, 1971 and n.d., 41 leaves
Folder #31, Community Action- Big Bend Area and General, 1966-1976 and n.d., 1 unbound, 3 leaves, 12 leaves
Folder #32, Community Bar-B-Que, 1976 and n.d., 40 leaves
Folder #33, Alpine Community Center, 1971-1973 and n.d., 31 leaves
Folder #34, County Extension Service, 1975 and n.d., 1 unbound, 40 leaves, 10 leaves
Folder #35, Community Improvement Divisions (charts), 1974 and n.d., 3 leaves

Folder #36, Community Improvement Division, 1974-1977 and n.d., 1 unbound, 6 leaves, 72 leaves

Box #1 (cont.)

GENERAL FILES (cont.)

Folder #37, Community Profiles - Past, 1974-1976 and n.d., 22 leaves
Folder #38, Complaints, 1970-1977 and n.d., 60 leaves

Box #2

GENERAL FILES (cont.)

Folder #39, Conference on Rural America, 1976-1978, 1 unbound, 4 leaves/4 leaves
Folder #40, Consumer Image Survey, 1977 and n.d., 3 leaves
Folder #41, Conventions in Alpine, 1975 and n.d., 7 leaves
Folder #43, Dr. Dyke, 1972-1973 and n.d., 150 leaves
Folder #45, Emergency Medical Service Council, 1971 and n.d., 12 leaves
Folder #46, Form Letters - Past, 1971-1976 and n.d., 12 leaves
Folder #48, 4-H Contest, 1974 and n.d., 7 leaves
Folder #49, Fun and Adventure Map, 1977 and n.d., 9 leaves
Folder #50, Guadalupe Mountains National Park, 1975 and n.d., 4 unbound, 127 leaves, 43 leaves
Folder #52, Hospital - Brewster, Nursing Home - Valley Hi, 1975-1976 and n.d., 9 leaves
Folder #53, Hospital Insurance, 1976-1977 and n.d., 4 unbound, 28 leaves, 31 leaves
Folder #54, Incident, 1969 and n.d., 32 leaves
Folder #55, Income Tax and Records, 1933-1954 and n.d., 108 leaves
Folder #57, Industry, Legislative and Transportation Committee, 1967-1972 and n.d., 1 unbound, 4 leaves, 48 leaves
Folder #58, Information Boards, 1973-1974 and n.d., 41 leaves
Folder #59, Invitations, 1973-1976 and n.d., 2 unbound, 8 leaves, leaves
Folder #60, Letters, 1955-1957 and n.d., 52 leaves
Folder #61, Little League, 1969-1972 and n.d., 68 leaves
Folder #62, Letters on Increased Dues, 1972-1973, 8 leaves
Folder #63, Lakes (area), 1972-1976 and n.d., 10 leaves
Folder #64, Manpower Education and Training Inc., n.d., 11 leaves
Folder #65, List of Members (updated), 1972-1978 and n.d., 76 leaves
Folder #66, Member Profile, 1972 and n.d., 12 leaves
Folder #67, Minutes, 1934-1935, 56 leaves
Folder #68, Minutes, 1937-1939, 151 leaves

Folder #69, Minutes, Constitution, and Bylaws, 1938-1942, 162 leaves
Folder #70, Minutes, 1948-1954, 64 leaves
Folder #71, Minutes, 1952-1954 and n.d., 61 leaves
Folder #72, Minutes, 1955-1957 and n.d., 83 leaves
Folder #73, Minutes, 1960-1971 and n.d., 45 leaves

Box #2 (cont.)

GENERAL FILES (cont.)

Folder #74, Miss West Texas Pageant, Correspondence, 1975-1978 and n.d., 14 leaves
Folder #75, Newspaper Recycling Program, 1974, 3 leaves
Folder #76, News Release, 1934-1937 and n.d., 62 leaves
Folder #77, Newspaper Articles (Glen Bromley), 1970-1972 and n.d., 283 leaves
Folder #78, Oeste, The Magazine for West Texas, 1975-1978 and n.d., 5 leaves
Folder #79, Parade and Booth's - July 5th, 1971 and n.d., 19 leaves
Folder #80, Pizza Hut, 1973 and n.d., 7 leaves
Folder #81, Plaques, 1975, 1 leaf

Box #3

GENERAL FILES (cont.)

Folder #82, Presidential Meeting Site, 1974 and n.d., 1 unbound, 23 leaves
Folder #83, President's Folder (Letters, etc.), 1972-1976 and n.d., 15 leaves
Folder #84, Proclamations, 1951-1975, 7 leaves
Folder #85, Projects, 1973-1976, 8 leaves
Folder #86, Prophet Foods, 1976-1978, 17 leaves
Folder #87, Ranch Relations Divisions, 1975-1977 and n.d., 1 unbound, 28 leaves, 16 leaves
Folder #88, American National Red Cross, Brewster County Chapter, n.d., 7 leaves
Folder #89, Resignation, 1970-1973, 7 leaves
Folder #90, Retail Service Division or Retail-Trade Division, 1976-1977 and n.d., 26 leaves
Folder #91, Retail Service Division, 1971-1972 and n.d., 94 leaves
Folder #92, Retirement, 1976, 2 unbound, 24 leaves, 53 leaves
Folder #93, Roofing Repairs, 1975-1976 and n.d., 11 leaves
Folder #94, School Bond Issue, 1969, 4 leaves
Folder #95, Slogans - Alpine, 1975, 1 leaf
Folder #96, Small Business Administration, 1974-1976 and n.d., 2 unbound, 24 leaves, 31 leaves
Folder #97, Social Division, carnivals, fairs, etc., 1976 and n.d., 38 leaves
Folder #98, Solar Energy, 1975 and n.d., 22 leaves
Folder #99, Special Projects, n.d., 8 leaves
Folder #100, Stenciled Information (Displayed), 1962-1975 and n.d., 32 leaves
Folder #101, Student Exchange, 1976, 1 unbound, 12 leaves, 1 leaf
Folder #102, Sul Ross Division, 1975-1977 and n.d., 17 leaves
Folder #104, Sul Ross State University, 1974-1977 and n.d., 4 unbound, 44 leaves, 116 leaves
ALPINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PAPERS, 1933-1978 and n.d

Box #3 (cont.)

GENERAL FILES (cont.)

Folder #105, Sul Ross State University, 1957-1975 and n.d., 1 unbound, 4 leaves, 147 leaves
Folder #106, Sul Ross Work Study, 1972-1973, 6 leaves
Folder #107, Summer Recreation Program, n.d., 4 leaves
Folder #109, Survey, 1971, 20 leaves
Folder #110, Taos Transportation, 1974-1975 and n.d., 16 leaves
Folder #111, Tee Pees, n.d., 1 leaf
Folder #112, Terlingua Chili Cook-Off, 1974-1975 and n.d., 50 leaves
Folder #113, Terlingua workshop, 1973-1975 and n.d., 15 leaves
Folder #114, Texas Aeronautics Commission, 1978, 1 leaf
Folder #115, Texas Tourist Development Agency, 1961-1976, 1 unbound, 16 leaves, 25 leaves
Folder #116, Texas Travel Trails, n.d., 30 leaves
Folder #118, Theater of the Big Bend, 1971 -1973 and n.d., 105 leaves
Folder #119, Past Information on the Summer Theater, 1971-1976 and n.d., 7 unbound, 48 leaves, 194 leaves
Folder #120, Tourism Jackson - Reprints, 1974-1975 and n.d., 20 leaves
Folder #121, Tourism - Recreation Division, 1972-1977 and n.d., 1 unbound, 14 leaves, 83 leaves
Folder #122, Tower, John G. (Senator) and Lloyd Benson, 1977 and n.d, 6 leaves
Folder #123, Training Schedules, 1942-1949 and n.d., 69 leaves
Folder #124, Dr. Turner, 1972, 1973 and n.d., 132 leaves
Folder #127, Water Carnival Parade, 1972, 6 leaves
Folder #128, Welcome Wagon, n.d., 5 leaves
Folder #129, West Texas Chamber of Commerce, Thank You Letters for WTCC Brochures, 1975-1976, 12 leaves
Folder #130, West Texas Chamber of Commerce, 1973-1975 and n.d., 46 leaves
Folder #131, West Texas Council of Government, 1974-1977 and n.d, 26 leaves
Folder #132, White, Richard C., 16th District Texas, 1970-1972 and n.d., 20 leaves
Folder #133, Wilderness Proposal, Master Plan, 1974 and n.d., 34 leaves
**ALPINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OFFICERS**

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Identification: The Alpine Chamber of Commerce began in 1907 as the Alpine Business Men's Club. The club was organized to help improve the community. One of the first projects was the creation of Alpine Independent School District. The club also worked at bringing the Dry Farming Conference to Alpine in 1909. In October of 1909 the club met and reorganized, changing its name to Alpine Commercial Club. New officers were elected and a committee appointed to solicit monthly donations to be used for the operation of the club and to hire a paid secretary. The Alpine Commercial Club met in the Alpine Avalanche office until January of 1911 when the club rented a room in the rear of the R. B. Slight Drug Store. In March, 1920 the Alpine Commercial Club changed its name to the Brewster County Chamber of Commerce. Then again, in 1938 the name of the club changed, this time to the Alpine Chamber of Commerce. A new constitution and bylaws were also adopted.
Principal Subjects:

All Texas Air Tour
Alpine Municipal Airport
Alpine, Texas
Alpine, Texas--Medical Services
Alpine, Texas--Census
Alpine, Texas--City Hall
Alpine, Texas--Entertainment Alpine Community Center
Big Bend Region
Big Bend Region--Tourism
Borgeson, Gus
Bromley, Glen
Brewster County Extension Service Sul Ross State University West Texas Chamber of Commerce

Evaluation: The Chamber of Commerce papers contain business correspondence, with members, organizations and groups and other chambers. In financial documents are several community audits. In general files are copies of the constitution and bylaws and information on community clubs and projects.

By Barry D Smith and Chris Cochran
Date May 9, 1984
ALPINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PAPERS, 1933-1978 and n.d

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGING DIVISION - MANUSCRIPTS SECTION

DATA SHEET FOR THE NATIONAL UNION CATALOG OF MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

Name of Repository: Archives of the Big Bend

Reported by: Chris Cochran  Date: May 11, 1984

1. Name of collection and inclusive dates of material:

   ALPINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PAPERS 1933-1978 and n.d.

2. Principal name around which the collection is formed; i.e., person (full name, birth and death dates), family, business, society governmental agency, or some other corporate body:

   Alpine Chamber of Commerce

   Give relationship to the collection i.e., writer, addressee, collector, other (specify):__

3. Occupation or type of activity of the principal person, family, or corporate body; significant events and dates in the career or activity; and place of residence or location of activity:

4. Number of linear shelf feet (if 1 foot or more) 3.75; or number of items 6,389 (known or estimated).

5. If the collection contains copies of manuscripts, describe the form(s) of reproduction (handwritten or typewritten transcripts, positive or negative photocopies, positive or negative microfilm with no. of reels) and give the number (or fraction of total) of each kind. Give location of originals, and dates and circumstances under which the copies were made:

6. Nature of acquisition (gift, permanent deposit, etc.), date(s) and source(s) of acquisition and former owner(s):

   Donation, March 18, May 6 and November 9, 1982, Sarah Boering, Executive Vice President of the Alpine Chamber of Commerce
7. Research access restricted    _    _    _    unrestricted X    . State nature of restriction and when it will be terminated:

- OVER -
8. Full citation of any published or unpublished description, guide, index, calendar, etc.

9. If this is, or was, part of another collection, state name and relationship

10. DESCRIPTION OF CONTENT AND SCOPE OF THE COLLECTION.

   This description should cover: types of papers (e.g., correspondence, letters, diaries, documents, etc.); dates, subjects, and types of groups of materials that bulk largest; relationship of the material to specific phases of the career or activity of the principal named in item 2; full names, dates, and biographical identification of other persons and names of corporate bodies significant (by quality and quantity of material) to the collection, showing dates, types, and subject matter; geographical areas covered; specific events, topics, and historical periods with which the materials deal; and particular items of extraordinary interest.

   The Alpine Chamber of Commerce was first organized in 1907, under the name of the Alpine Business Men’s Club. The club was organized to help secure improvements for the community of Alpine, Texas. One of the club’s first projects was the creation of the Alpine Independent School District. In October of 1909 the club was reorganized and the name changed to Alpine Commercial Club. The club operated under this name until March of 1920 when the name was changed to Brewster County Chamber of Commerce. In 1938 the name was again changed, this time to the present name, Alpine Chamber of Commerce. A new constitution and by-laws were adopted at this time.

   The bulk of this collection is found in the General Files, which contain information about activities of the Alpine Chamber of Commerce and the community of Alpine, Texas. Also contained in General Files are minutes from meetings (1934-1971). The majority of the material in the collection dates from 1970 to 1976. The collection is housed in three Archival boxes. The arrangement of the material is as follows:

   Correspondence, 1955-1977 and n.d.
   Maps, n.d.
   Printed Material, 1968-1978
   General Files, 1933-1978 and n.d.