

ALMA SALMON WERFELMAN  
MS-003

International Women's Air and Space Museum  
Burke Lakefront Airport, Room 165  
1501 North Marginal Way  
Cleveland, OH 44114

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## Alma Salmon Werfelman Collection

### INTRODUCTION

The Alma Salmon Werfelman Collection was accessioned into IWASM on July 22, 1994. The material was donated by Lillian Salmon Ochiltree in memory of her sister. The material from the years 1929-1930 fills one small Hollinger box and is organized as follows:

Photographs  
Department of Commerce Material  
Pamphlets  
Magazines  
Newspaper Articles

Mrs. Ochiltree requested that items from the collection be displayed with a plaque that reads:

ALMA SALMON WERFELMAN, PRESIDENT,  
CINCINNATI GIRLS GLIDER CLUB, 1929

There are no other conditions or restrictions on the use of these materials.

### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Alma Salmon Werfelman was born on June 12, 1900 and died in December 4, 1963. During the span dates of this collection she lived at 2972 Wardall Avenue in Westwood, Ohio, a suburb of Cincinnati, with her husband Walter Werfelman. In 1929 she helped organize the Cincinnati Girls Glider Club and was elected its first president. This was one of eight glider clubs in the Cincinnati area and the first glider club for women in the United States. The original limit of 25 members was increased after a deluge of inquiries from interested women. Mrs. Ochiltree was also a member of the CGGC.

The glider used by the Cincinnati Girls Glider Club was originally built by Mr. Werfelman and three other men and was used by the men to compete in the 1929 Cleveland Air Races. It was watching films of these races that inspired the women to start their own club. The girls received instruction from Lt. John Moinchen, formerly of the Norwegian Air Corp. Both the men and the women performed on Sundays at the Mount Healthy Airport, Colerain Pike and Springdale Road.

### SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This is a small collection of papers collected by Alma Werfelman during her tenure as President of the Cincinnati Girls Glider Club. The twelve photographs in the first folder show club members, the glider, club activities, and Alma. This folder also includes a pilot's license signed by Orville Wright. The material from the Department of Commerce is in an envelope and includes letters and certificates about the issuance of an identification number for the CGGC. Six pamphlets about gliders and glider flying are in another envelope. Some of the subjects are brief history, contest rules, and instructions for flying gliders.

The rest of the collection is magazines, magazine articles, and newspaper clippings. All but one of the articles have been copied. The original newspaper articles are pasted on scrapbook pages. Air Travel News for October 1, 1930 printed articles about the CGGC (page 27) and about Mrs. Gardner of Victoria, an Australian Aero Club pilot married to a pilot (page 17). Air Travel News for November 1, 1930 included articles about Mrs. Keith Miller, holder of the Australian transcontinental record, and a picture of Miller with Blanche Noyes and Amelia Earhart (page 9) and Miss E. M. Follett of Sydney, holder of a 1927 license (page 19). The National Power Glider published an article about the CGGC in November 1930. The newspaper clippings are about men and women's glider activities during the period. One of them covering the Cleveland Air Races mentions that Amelia Earhart, Lady Mary Heath, and Frank Hawks were present and flew gliders.

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BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

Contents (in a single box)	Dates
Folder 1 Photographs	1929
Folder 2 Department of Commerce Material	1929-31
Folder 3 Pamphlets	1929-30
Folder 4 Magazines	1930
Folder 5 Newspaper Articles	1929-30