

Chicago Academy of Sciences / Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum  
**ARCHIVES – FINDING AID**

**Collection Title:** Burnham Astronomical Society Records

**Creator:**

**Dates:** 1942-1951

**Language:** English

**Extent:** 0.12 Linear Feet

**Level of Description:** Folder Level

**Repository:** Museum Collections and Archives, Chicago Academy of Sciences /Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, Chicago, Illinois.

**Access Conditions:** Open for research.

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**Citation:** Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [item], [folder], [box], Burnham Astronomical Society Records, Institutional Records, Chicago Academy of Sciences / Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum.

**Provenance:** Created through Chicago Academy of Sciences official activities.

**Processor and Date:** Amber King and Dawn Roberts, 2010. Updated by Olivia Ottinger, 2017.

**Processing Note:** Materials have been reorganized by subject and date.

**Biographical Sketch:** The Burnham Astronomical Society was formed in Chicago in 1941 as a club for amateur astronomers. The society's objective was to promote to the public the knowledge of Astronomy and similar sciences through education, civic duty, and scientific research. The society was a successor to the Chicago Telescope Makers, and members would meet every other Tuesday. The

Burnham Astronomical Society became affiliated with the Chicago Academy of Sciences in 1945. The Burnham Astronomical Society merged with the Chicago Astronomical Society in 1955.

**Scope and Content:** The materials found within this collection are part of the institutional records of the Chicago Academy of Sciences. Content includes letters regarding Burnham Astronomical Society meetings and events; letters to and from J. Madison Showalter, the Burnham Astronomical Society president, regarding society meetings at the Chicago Academy of Sciences; agreements and affiliation application with the Chicago Academy of Sciences; the article of incorporation for the society; letters regarding membership dues and lists of society members; general bills for the society; press releases and post card announcements for society meetings and events; and programs for society meetings and events.

**Container List:**

Affiliated Societies, Box 1

Series 1: Burnham Astronomical Society – Correspondence – General (1942-1951)

Series 2: Burnham Astronomical Society – Correspondence – Showalter, J. Madison (1945-1950)

Series 3: Burnham Astronomical Society – Correspondence – Academy Affiliation Application (1944-1945)

Series 4: Burnham Astronomical Society – Correspondence – Financial – Annual Academy Dues (1945-1950)

Series 5: Burnham Astronomical Society – Correspondence – Financial – Bills (1946-1951)

Series 6: Burnham Astronomical Society – Correspondence – Printing (1945-1951)

Series 7: Burnham Astronomical Society – Financial – Bills (1945-1951)

Series 8: Burnham Astronomical Society – Lists – Member (1951)

Series 9: Burnham Astronomical Society – Printed Materials (1942-1951)