



BHC Special Collections  
Guide to the Community Cookbooks Collection  
By Meg Rinn  
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**Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Various Bridgeport organizations

**Title:** Community Cookbooks Collection

**Dates:** 1955-

**Quantity:** 3 manuscript boxes

**Abstract:** Community cookbooks offer unique insights into groups and food trends, and enables a greater understanding of a community's sense of belonging to a given place. Many times cookbooks are used as fundraisers or outreach, helping to bring attention to a community or organization's work. The Community Cookbooks Collection reflects Bridgeport's diverse communities through food, and is ever expanding.

**Language:** English

**Repository:** Bridgeport History Center

**Administrative History:**

Community cookbooks offer unique insights into groups and food trends, and enables a greater understanding of a community's sense of belonging to a given place. Many times cookbooks are used as fundraisers or outreach, helping to bring attention to a community or organization's work.

Over the years, the Bridgeport Public Library has entered community based cookbooks into its collections, and then turned the items over to the Bridgeport History Center upon removing the books from circulation. At the same time, the Bridgeport History Center has acquired cook books from various community organizations.

The Bridgeport History Center is actively soliciting donations of cookbooks from local groups in order to expand this collection and better capture the rich culinary diversity and heritage of Bridgeport and its residents.

**Scope and Content note:**

The scope of these cookbooks are varied, reflecting mostly religious organizations in Bridgeport who sold cookbooks as fundraisers. The same does go for community based organization cookbooks, and the two complement each other well.

Of note in the general section are the two works by Judith Sulik. [An Adventure for your Palate: an international cookbook and restaurant guide to Bridgeport, Connecticut](#) features recipes from Bridgeport restaurants including Bloodroot's chocolate devastation cake, and her [No Counters No Problem! 50 one pot meals to get you through kitchen remodeling](#) features illustrations by Michele Jacobson, a librarian in the Bridgeport Public Library system.

**Arrangement Note:**

At the moment, the collection is arranged into the following series: general cookbooks and guides, school produced cookbooks, community organization cookbooks, religious organization cookbooks, and other organization cookbooks. General cookbooks and guides refer mostly to Bridgeport's restaurant scene and larger, mass market texts. School produced cookbooks represent the work of Bridgeport schools, community organizations are often fundraisers for various groups, and the same goes for those of religious organizations. The other organizations series may be refined in the future.

**Administrative information:**

**Provenance:** Various

**Preferred Citation:**

Please cite the cookbook as an individual book according to the style guide you are using.

**Detailed listing**

***General cookbooks and guides***

Blanchard, Marjorie Page. What Cooks in Connecticut. 1979.

Sulik, Judith. An Adventure for your Palate: an international cookbook and restaurant guide to Bridgeport, Connecticut. 1995.

Sulik, Judith. No Sink? No Counters No Problem! 50 one pot meals to get you through kitchen remodeling. 1997.[ Features illustration by Bridgeport Public Library librarian Michele Jacobson.]

***School cookbooks***

Central High School. A Taste of Central. 1999. [2 copies]

John Winthrop School. Recipes Compiled by John Winthrop School. C. 1990s

***Community organization cookbooks***

Bridgeport Healthcare Center Resident Council. Sharing our Best. 2002.

Bridgeport Public Library Staff Association. Novel Delights. 1986. [2 copies]

Greater Bridgeport Literacy Volunteers of America. Cooking for their ABCs. 1988.

Ladies Guild of the Italian Community Center. International Cook Book of Favorite Recipes from our Kitchens. 1975.

Manna House and Norwalk Emergency Shelter. Manna House of Hospitality Cookbook. 1999.

Newman, Paul. Hole-In-The-Wall-Gang Cookbook. 1998.

Remesa Adult Daycare of Bridgeport. Recipes and Memories. Undated. [English and Spanish.]

Rehabilitation Center of Eastern Fairfield County. Ed. Louise Thoman. Our Special Blend. 1984.  
[Contains forward by Craig Clairborne.]

St. Vincent's Hospital. Favorite Recipes from the Auxiliaries and Friends. 1979.

Vasa Order of America. Connecticut Cookery. 1981.

***Religious Organizations***

First United Church of Christ. Centennial Cookbook. 1994.

Nichols United Methodist Church. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cookbook. 1990.

Holy Rosary Church [Children of Mary Sodality.] Buon' Appetito. 1995.

Holy Rosary Church [St. Theresa Guild.] A Treasury of Favorite Italian Recipes. Undated.

Holy Triniy Greek Catholic Ladies Guild. Hungarian and American Cook Book. 1955.

Holy Trinity Slovak Lutheran Church. Let's Cook with the Dorcas Guild. Undated.

***Other Organizations***

Tesiha Capozzi O'Leary Memorial Foundation Inc. A Collection of Favorite Recipes. 1992.