

Inventory of the

**Genoa Afternoon Homemakers  
Extension Unit**  
Genoa, Illinois

Records

In the

Regional History Center

**RC 259**

## INTRODUCTION

Irene Knight donated the records for the Genoa Afternoon Homemakers Extension Unit to the Regional History Center on December 12, 2003.

Property rights in the collection belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: .75  
Number of containers: 2  
Northern Illinois Regional History Center  
Collection 259

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Genoa Afternoon Homemakers Extension Unit records are divided into three series: Genoa Afternoon Homemakers Extension Unit; DeKalb County; and Illinois. Series I contains a complete set of meeting minutes from the organization's establishment in 1937 to its disbandment in 1998. Also included in Series I are attendance lists and dues lists, blue ribbon unit recognition, certificates of merit special recognition, and ribbons.

Series II, DeKalb County, included records for other Home Bureau organizations in DeKalb County while Series III is comprised of records at the state level.

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

The DeKalb County Home Bureau, a professional organization for homemakers, organized in 1937 to bring home economics education programs to the women of the county. The Genoa Township Unit of the DeKalb County Home Bureau organized on March 24, 1937. The organizational meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Gertrude Lewis on June 25, 1937 with nine members present. Mrs. Gertrude Lewis was elected chair; Mrs. Ida Emerson was elected vice chair; and Mrs. Agnes Gerlt was elected secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Avis Hasler, Mrs. Alice Rasmussen and Mrs. Alice Gerlt served on the Program Committee. The first major project for the organization was on "Home Furnishings" and the second was on "Food and Nutrition." According to the constitution, "the object of this organization is to promote the development of home making to the end that every home may be economically sound, mechanically convenient, morally wholesome, mentally stimulating, artistically satisfying, physically healthful, socially responsible, spiritually inspiring, founded upon mutual affection and respect."

The name of the organization was changed to the Genoa Unit of the DeKalb County Homemakers Extension Association in 1962. The organization voted to disband on May 19, 1998 with the members given the option of joining another unit or subscribing to mailbox. The

remaining funds in the treasury were given to Pennies for Friendship. The last meeting was a potluck held at Lenna Schmidt's home with seven member attending.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

DeKalb County Home Bureau  
DeKalb County Homemakers Extension Association  
Genoa  
Genoa Unit of the DeKalb County Home Bureau  
Genoa Afternoon Homemakers Extension Unit  
Home Economics  
Women's Organizations

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Series I. Genoa Afternoon Homemakers Extension Unit		
1	1-6	Meeting Minutes, June 1937-May 1998
	7	Attendance and Dues Lists, (1937-1996)
2	1	Lesson Forms, 1966-1970
	2	Secretary's Report Card, n.d.
	3	Duties of Unit Secretary-Treasurer, n.d.; Calendar of Work for Unit Executive Committee, May 1969
	4	Blue Ribbon Unit Recognition, 1980-1990
	5	Certificate of Merit and Ribbons, 1984, 1987-1989; Special Recognition Certificate, 1991-1992
	6	Program, "Head to Toe Terrific!," 1998
Series II. DeKalb County		
	7	DeKalb County Home Bureau, Constitution and By-laws, 1955
	8	DeKalb County Homemakers Extension Association, Constitution, 1992
	9	DeKalb County Home Bureau Programs, 1951-1955
	10	DeKalb County Home Bureau and Home Economics Extension, Program, 1955/1956; DeKalb County Home Economics Extension Service, Programs, (1956-1968)
	11	DeKalb County Homemakers Extension Association and Cooperative Extension Service, Program, 1993-1998
	12	DeKalb County Homemakers Extension Association, Annual Meeting, 1996, 1997
	13	DeKalb County Homemakers Extension Association, Membership Tea/60th Birthday Part, September 24, 1997
Series III. Illinois		
	14	Illinois Home Bureau Federation, "Sing with I.H.B.F.," n.d.