

Inventory of the

**DeKalb County Centennial/Bicentennial**  
DeKalb County, Illinois

Collection

In the

Regional History Center

**RC 9**

## INTRODUCTION

The DeKalb County Centennial/Bicentennial Collection came to the Northern Illinois University Archives from individual donations (1965-1977) and from materials collected by Waite Embree donated in 1967. J. Joseph Bauxer, University Archivist, transferred this collection to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center between January and May 1978. Glen Gildemeister added his DeKalb Sesquicentennial Celebration Committee files and Joan Metzger added related DeKalb Sesquicentennial documentation, in 2006. Additional Sesquicentennial materials of former DeKalb Mayor Frank Van Buer were added in 2014.

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

Linear Feet of Shelf Space: 3.0  
Number of Containers: 4 boxes  
Northern Illinois Regional History Center  
Collection 9

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

The materials in this collection document the preparations, financial arrangements, and special programs planned and celebrated at the DeKalb County Centennial (1934), DeKalb City Centennial (1956), DeKalb County's celebration of the U.S. Bicentennial (1974-1977), and the DeKalb City Sesquicentennial (2006).

Records in this collection are divided into five series. Series I, DeKalb County and DeKalb City Centennials, includes materials written on DeKalb County history and demographics as well as on the events to celebrate the centennials. The second series, DeKalb County Bicentennial Commission records, contains minutes, newsletters, correspondence, and financial reports completely documenting the organization and program implementation of the DeKalb County Bicentennial Commission. Series III, Illinois Bicentennial Commission, and IV, American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, contain pamphlets, brochures and other materials which provide background information on state and national Bicentennial celebrations. The materials in series five include program planning meeting minutes, newspaper articles, flyers, and a calendar to commemorate the DeKalb City Sesquicentennial in 2006. The records in this collection are of good quality for research on DeKalb County.

Note that the *DeKalb Chronicle*, Centennial Edition, 1956 is located in Drawer 10 in the Reading Room Map Cabinet. "DeKalb at 150," a *DeKalb Chronicle* supplement series, 2006, is located in Folder 4, Drawer 14, in the basement storage area. The photographs taken for the DeKalb Sesquicentennial Streetscapes Project in 2006 are found in RC 276.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Barbed Wire  
Centennial  
DeKalb County Centennial  
DeKalb County Historical Society  
DeKalb (Ill.) Centennial  
DeKalb (Ill.) History  
DeKalb (Ill.) Sesquicentennial  
United States Centennial Celebrations, etc -Bicentennial

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
Series I. DeKalb County and DeKalb City Centennials		
1	1	DeKalb County Centennial Celebration, financial information, 1934
	2	DeKalb Centennial Committee Minutes, 1955-1956: DeKalb Centennial Correspondence, (1953-1957)
	3	DeKalb Centennial Pageant Script, 1956
	4	DeKalb Centennial Parade, 1956
	5	DeKalb Centennial Souvenir Booklet, 1956
	6	DeKalb Centennial Programs, 1956
	7	DeKalb Centennial Time Capsule Information, 1956
	8	DeKalb Centennial Publicity Materials, 1956
	9	Historical Sketches of DeKalb and It's Organizations
	10	<u>The General Electric News</u> , 1956
	11	Other Towns' Centennial Programs, 1953-1954
	12	DeKalb, Illinois--General Information, (1949-?)
	13	<u>The Barbed Wire Workers and Social History of DeKalb in the Nineteenth Century</u> by Steve Rosswurm, 1972
	14	<u>Demographic History of DeKalb to 1899</u> by Bill Briska, 1972
	15	DeKalb County History, <u>Our Local Heritage</u> , 1967
	16	DeKalb County History, <u>Marie Louise Olmstead Memorial</u> , 1903
	17	DeKalb County History, <u>Chief Shabbona</u> , 1915
	18	DeKalb County History, War Memorials
	Oversize	<i>DeKalb Chronicle</i> , Centennial Edition, 1956 [Located in the Oversize Map Cabinet, Drawer 10, in the Reading Room]
Series II. DeKalb County Bicentennial Commission		
	19	Application for County/Town Bicentennial Commissions, 1974
	20	Minutes, DeKalb County Bicentennial Commission, 1974-1977
	21	Bicentennial Correspondence, In, 1974-1976
	22	Bicentennial Correspondence, Out, 1974-1977
	23	Bicentennial Financial Reports, 1975-1977
	24	Reports to DeKalb County Board, 1976-1977
	25	DeKalb County Bicentennial Commission Newsletters, 1975-1976

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	26	Mailing Lists, 1974-1976
	27	N.I.U. Bicentennial Committee, 1975-1977
	28	Activity Date Registration, 1975-1976
	29	Appointments and Schedule of Events, 1975-1976
	30	Proclamation Day Ceremony, July 5, 1975
	31	Chairperson Pat Canon's Speech Materials
	32	Publicity Material to I.B.C., 1975-1976
	33	County Seal Contest, 1975-1976
	34	Bicentennial Quilt Competition, 1976
	35	Old Time Song Contest, 1976
	36	Bicentennial Grove Plans, 1975-1977
	37	Bicentennial Grove Slides, 1976
	38	Somonauk, IL--American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, 1976
	39	Sandwich, IL--Bicentennial Celebration, 1976
	40	Genoa-Kingston, (IL) Bicentennial Materials, 1976
	41	Malta (IL) School Bicentennial Committee Memos, 1975- 1976
	42	Altrusa Club Benefit Show Program, 1976
	43	Kishwaukee College Bicentennial Victorian Crafts Fair, 1975
	44	Information on Professional Entertainment Groups
	45	Grant Agency Guidelines for Bicentennial Monies
	46	Craft Ideas and Information
	47	Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America (SPEBQSA), 1975
	48	Newspaper Clippings, 1975-1976
	49	Various Celebration Programs and Photos, 1976
	50	Bicentennial Wagon Train, 1976

### Series III. Illinois Bicentennial Commission

51	<u>Illinois</u> Correspondent, IBC Newsletter, 1972-1976
52	I.B.C. Final Report, 1977
53	I.B.C. Memoranda, 1975-1977
54	I.B.C. Resources Guides and Lists, 1975-1977
55	I.B.C. Licensed Products Lists, 1976
56	I.B.C. Informational Brochures
57	I.B.C. Ideas for Different Organizations
58	I.B.C. Calendar of Events, 1976
59	I.B.C. Historical Bibliographies
60	I.B.C. Financial Assistance for Bicentennial Projects

Series IV. American Revolution Bicentennial Administration

1	61	American Bicentennial Administration Pamphlets
	62	Planning Guides for Bicentennial Projects, 1973- 1974
	63	National Committee for the Bicentennial Era, 1975
	64	Peoples Bicentennial Commission, 1974-1976
	65	Hands Across America, 1976
	66	Hikers of America Brochures, 1976
	67	Bicentennial Council of the Thirteen Original States (Newsletters), 1975
	68	Bikecentennial, 1976
2	1	National Contest Information
	2	Town Meeting '76, 1975-1976
	3	Sister Cities International Brochure
	4	Flag Information, 1975
	5	Official Bicentennial Medals and Souvenir Catalogs
	6	Informational Pamphlets on Conferences, Exhibits, Programs, and Tours
	7-8	<u>Bicentennial Times</u> , 1974-1976
	9	Bicentennial Newspaper Special Editions, 1976
	10	<u>Some Skeletons In Our Closet and Other Friendly Ghosts</u> , DeKalb County at 150, E. Nelson James, 1987

ADDENDUM

Series V: DeKalb City Sesquicentennial

3	1	Sesquicentennial Program Committee, 2005-2006
	2	Sesquicentennial Celebration Committee, 2005-2006
	3	DeKalb Streetscapes: A Sesquicentennial Project, 2006
	4	Calendar, "DeKalb, Illinois 150 Years of Community, 1856- 2006."
	5	Sesquicentennial Time Capsule Opening Ceremony Program, April 2, 2006
	6	Sesquicentennial Women's Luncheon Committee, 2006 Sesquicentennial Ball
	7	Committee, 2006
	8	Committee Script, September 30, 2006
	9	Program, September 30, 2006
	10	Photo Proof Sheets, 2006
	11	Photographs (3), September 30, 2006

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	6
	12	Sesquicentennial Parade, October 21, 2006	
	13	Time Capsule Dedication, October 22, 2006	
	14	DeKalb Sesquicentennial Cancellation Stamp, October 22, 2006	
	15	Certificate of Corporation [boundary] Limits of DeKalb, December 9, 1856.	
	16	Thank You Notes for Frank and Mary Beth Van Buer, 2006	
	17	"DeKalb Centennial Parade Slide Show Presentation," 2006	
	18	Sesquicentennial Material, Misc. (2 floppy disks), ca. 2006	
	19	Newspaper Clippings, 2006	
4		Sesquicentennial Memorabilia, 2006	
		Sesquicentennial Ball wine glasses, September 30, 2006 (2)	
		"DeKalb-The Barb City 150 Years of Community," Mug	
		"DeKalb, Illinois, Sesquicentennial 1856-2006," Dish	
		Tee-shirt, beige with maroon logo	
		Tee-shirts, white with multi-colored design, (2)	
		Orange Vest worn by Glen Gildemeister to direct parade traffic, October 21, 2006	
Oversize Drawer 14	4	"DeKalb at 150," Commemorative Newspaper Edition, (Sections 1-6, 9), 2006	
	4a	Newspaper Clippings, 2006	