

A Guide to the Loudoun County Fair Association 4-H Collection , ca. 1920 - 2011

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A Collection in the Thomas Balch Library VC 0017
Thomas Balch Library
2006
Author: Carolyn Jackson

History

Processed by: Carolyn Jackson

Title Statement

A Guide to the Loudoun County Fair Association 4-H Collection , ca. 1920 - 2011

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Author: Carolyn Jackson

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Collection number

VC 0017

Language

English

Abstract

This collection consists of 173 photographs of various 4-H groups in Loudoun County during the twentieth century, 40 4-H Fair programs dating from 1941 to 2000, meeting minutes, flyers, correspondence, and a copy of the deed to the fairgrounds.

Collector

Loudoun Fair Association

Repository

Thomas Balch Library

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection open for research.

Use Restrictions

Visual materials may require special handling.

Acquisition Information

Loudoun Fair Association, Leesburg, VA

Processing Information

Processed by Carolyn Jackson, 13 August 2010

Updated by Elizabeth E. Preston, 28 November 2012

Annual 4-H Fair Programs are catalogued as V REF 630.740975 LOU in Loudoun County Public Library's online catalogue Horizon.

Preferred Citation

Loudoun County Fair Association 4-H Collection (VC 0017), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

Accruals

2007.0191, 2012.0165

Alternative Form Available

Digital surrogates

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Russell Gregg Photograph Collection, ca. 1920-1944 (VC 0008); Winslow Williams Photograph Collection (VC 0003)

Bibliography

Loudoun Times-Mirror, Eastern Loudoun Times.

History of 4-H Clubs. http://cals.arizona.edu/aes/mac/ag-ventures/4-H_detailed_history.htm. January 23, 2010.

Loudoun County Fair Association 4-H Collection (VC 0017), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

Loudoun Times-Mirror, Eastern Loudoun

A Brief History of Virginia's 4-H Educational Centers

Other Finding Aid

Past Perfect catalogue records

Technical Requirements

Electronic media

Historical Information

Individual 4-H clubs formed around the United States during the late 1800s and early 1900s to help educate young people, ages 10 to 21, about agricultural life. In 1907 or 1908, a three-leaf clover emblem was adopted nationally, standing for head, heart, and hands. In 1911, a fourth leaf was added, standing for hustle, before being changed to mean health. The 4-H system was adopted, teaching youth how to manage farms. During the 1920s, the program organized itself on state and national levels, creating requirements for clubs, projects, and leadership. In 1927, the first National 4-H club Camp was created, making 4-H a federal-state-county organization; in that same year, state 4-H leaders adopted the national 4-H pledge and motto.

In the 1930s, 4-H projects expanded from solely agricultural in focus to include home economic projects such as clothing, child care and home management as well as agricultural engineering projects such as soil conservation and tractors. During World War II, the 4-H clubs contributed to the war efforts with community service projects for collecting scrap metal and raising victory gardens, among others. The 1950s were characterized by 4-H'ers' interest in science, as well as a lowering of the age requirements to between 9 and 19 years old. For the next 50 years, 4-H continued to grow and contribute to society by offering a learning experience for youth, as well as a social outlet. The national organization celebrated its centennial in 2002.

The first 4-H county camp in Virginia was held in Loudoun County in 1917 for tomato and canning clubs. The first Loudoun County 4-H Fair was in 1936 at the Fireman's Field in Purcellville. The annual fair was held in that spot until 1954, when it moved to the Middleburg Community Center. Two years later, the Fair moved again to Lincoln Elementary School. In 1956, Clarence R. Ahalt (1888-1962) and his wife Tillie A. Ahalt (1889-1979) donated 13 acres of land to the Loudoun 4-H organization. Since 1957, the Fair has been held on those 13 acres, located just west of Leesburg. In 1993, a 4-H scholarship program was set up by the Loudoun 4-H Clubs & Associates. The 70th anniversary of the County Fair was celebrated in 2005.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of 173 photographs of various 4-H groups in Loudoun County during the twentieth century. The photographs, taken by local photographers including Russell Gregg, Winslow William, Hugh Grubb as well as anonymous 4-H club members, feature fairs and contests, prize-winning specimens, winners and talent shows. In addition, there are photographs of 4-H'ers working on projects, playing, or participating in various camp activities. Individual photographs have been catalogued in Past Perfect, Thomas Balch Library's visual collections database.

The photographs were originally housed in "magnetic" albums, photocopies of which are included in Box 2. Photographs are arranged according to date, with undated photographs and those dated after the collection was originally organized arranged by subject at the end of the collection. There is also a folder of slides, primarily from the 1970s.

In addition to the photographs, the collection contains 48 programs dating from 1941 to 2011, which have been catalogued in Loudoun County Public Library's online catalogue Horizon, meeting minutes for an advisory board for Home Demonstration agents, flyers a box of catalogs handed out at the fair or included in the Loudoun Times-Mirror as a special supplement.

Contents List

Container VC 0017

Folder 1

vc_0017_001: [dancing in a field], 6 x 8"

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vc_0017_003, 4-H Picnic: 1932 (VA Tech), 2.5 x 4.25"

vc_0017_004: [2 girls measuring a dress hem], 2.5 x 4.25"

vc_0017_005: [Zack Reed with scythe, identified by Edgar Ted" Lincoln]", 8 x 10"

vc_0017_006: Style Dress Review held as part of 4-H Fair, 1943 or '44, 3 x 4"

vc_0017_007: The 1947 Loudoun County 4-H Livestock Judging

vc_0017_008: [6 boys with 6 cows in front of barn], 4 x 6"

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vc_0017_023: [Tommy Hoff and Bobby Jeffries with steers], 8 x 10"

vc_0017_024: [3 boys with 4 steers -- boy with leftmost steer cut out of picture], 8 x 10"

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vc_0017_027: [Frankie Eppes and Andrea Stammers], 8 x 10"

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vc_0017_041: [Certificate of Recognition -- State Honors - recipients], 5 x 7"

vc_0017_042: [auditorium full of people], 5 x 7"

vc_0017_043: [8 steer judging proofs], 8 x 10"

vc_0017_044: [12 steer judging proofs], 8 x 10"

vc_0017_045: [forestry demonstration], 8 x 10"

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vc_0017_051: [judge examining a cow], 5.25 x 8"

vc_0017_052: [5 men in front of barn], 4 x 6"

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vc_0017_055: [Ronni Blake, judge, and cow], 1971-09, 3.5 x 5"
vc_0017_056: [contestant, judge, and cow], 1971-09, 3.5 x 5"
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vc_0017_060: 1972, 3.1 x 3.1"
vc_0017_061: [The Loudoun County 4-H Club" display]", 1972, 3.1 x 3.1"
vc_0017_062: [people & horse outside building from a distance], 1972, 3.1 x 3.1"
vc_0017_063: [people & horse outside building -- closer], 1972, 3.1 x 3.1"
vc_0017_064: [4-H members], 1970s, 3.1 x 3.1"
vc_0017_065: [4-H members], 1970s, 3.1 x 3.1"
vc_0017_066: [4-H group shot], 1970s, 3.1 x 3.1"
vc_0017_067: [4-H group shot], 1970s, 3.1 x 3.1"
vc_0017_068: [4-H group shot], 1970s, 3.1 x 3.1"
vc_0017_069: [2 girls with scarecrow], 8 x 10"
vc_0017_070: [award winning steer #6 -- all brown head], 4 x 5"
vc_0017_071: [award winning steer -- white head], 4 x 5"
vc_0017_072: [award winning steer -- white head], 4 x 5"
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vc_0017_080: 4-H State winners, 8 x 10"

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vc_0017_088: 4-H Fashion Revue, 8 x 10"

vc_0017_089: Nation 4-H Horse Roundup, 198?-10-3/4, 8 x 10"

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vc_0017_092: [boy in cowboy hat on log], 1980, 3.5 x 4.5"

vc_0017_093: Cromer Boys Win -- National Winner, 59th 4-H Congress, 8 x 10"

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vc_0017_096: [fashion review], 3.5 x 5"

vc_0017_097: [girl with calf], 3.5 x 5"

vc_0017_098: [3 prize winners at dog show], 3.5 x 5"

vc_0017_099: [oratory contest contestants?], 3.5 x 5"

vc_0017_100: [oratory contest contestants?], 3.5 x 5"

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vc_0017_101: [oratory contest contestants?], 3.5 x 5"

vc_0017_102: [oratory contest contestants?], 3.5 x 5"

vc_0017_103: [fashion revue], 3.5 x 5"

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vc_0017_119: [girls sewing], 3.5 x 5"

vc_0017_120: [girls sewing], 3.5 x 5"

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vc_0017_139: [Horse Judging Team visits Lexington Horse Center], 1996-05, 4 x 6"

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vc_0017_141: [panorama of 4-H exhibit hall], 4 x 6"

vc_0017_142: [panorama of 4-H exhibit hall], 4 x 6"

vc_0017_143: [panorama of 4-H exhibit hall], 4 x 6"

vc_0017_144: [panorama of 4-H exhibit hall], 4 x 6"

vc_0017_145: [panorama of 4-H exhibit hall], 4 x 6"

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vc_0017_149: [panorama of 4-H exhibit hall], 4 x 6"

vc_0017_150: [panorama of 4-H exhibit hall], 4 x 6"

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vc_0017_151: [panorama of 4-H exhibit hall], 4 x 6"

vc_0017_152: [sheep and goat area outside the barn], 8 x 10"

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vc_0017_156: [adult woman, Lovettsville 4-H teenage girl, tweenie boy], 4 x 6"

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vc_0017_158: [6 Round Hill 4-H children sitting in a barn], 4 x 6"

vc_0017_159: [Hattie Ketterman & The Leaps & Bounds Horse Club helped], 4 x 6"

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vc_0017_167: [antique cars], 3.5 x 5"

vc_0017_168: [Caroline Graham], 3.5 x 5"

vc_0017_169: [group shot - County Agent Winnie Peale, Carolin Graham], 3.5 x 5"

vc_0017_170: [Is your life running on empty? Get a fill-up -- Join Extension Homemakers" display board]", 3.5 x 5"

vc_0017_171: [Joan Hager riding western style], 3.5 x 5"

vc_0017_172: [man riding western style, woman riding western style, possibly on a Shetland Pony], 3.5 x 5"

vc_0017_173: [turtle race], 3.5 x 5"

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vc_0017_174: [rural landscape with church], n.d, 4"x5"

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Folder 2: Album 2: Untitled

Folder 3: Loose Album Pages

Folder 4: Anniversary (25th) Plans

Folder 4: Anniversary (25th) Plans

Folder 5: Awards 1955, 2002

Folder 6: Deed for Fairgrounds (photocopy) 1956

Folder 7: Journal, Advisory Board for Home Demonstration Work 1926-1947

Folder 8: Newspaper Articles

Folder 9: Publicity

Folder 10: List of cataloged programs

Box 2

Loudoun County Annual Fair Catalogs 1978-1985; 1992; 1994-1995

Thomas Balch Library