

THE JOHN J. D'AGOSTINO COLLECTION

Papers, 1950-1981
(Predominantly, 1951-1973)

4 linear feet

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May 1988

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L. C. Number MS

The papers of John J. D'Agostino were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in September 1966 by Mr. D'Agostino and were opened for research that same month. Additional papers were placed in the Archives by Mr. D'Agostino in December 1985 and opened for research in May 1988.

John J. D'Agostino was an International Representative for the UAW's Recreation Department from 1951 to 1981. In the early 1950's, he was instrumental in launching the K-M-0 (Kent-Montcalm-Ottawa) Regional Recreation Program. In 1957, he expressed interest in proposals to reduce fares on public transport for the elderly. For the rest of the decade, Mr. D'Agostino was involved in the International's Recreation Leadership Program. In 1963, he helped to establish the first UAW sponsored recreational senior center in the Detroit area. Throughout the 1960's and 1970's, he fought for publicly funded medical care for workers and senior citizens alike. Mr. D'Agostino retired from the UAW in October 1981.

In addition to his work with the UAW, Mr. D'Agostino was an environmental conservationist. In 1966, he was elected secretary of the Recreation Association of Michigan, an organization dedicated to improving parks.

The papers of Mr. D'Agostino reflect his work with the UAW.

Important subjects are:

Formation of K-M-0 Regional Recreation Council (1951)
Wage Increase for City of Detroit Recreation Employees (1954)
Recreation Leadership Program
Founding of first Senior Center (1963)
Struggle for Social Security funded medical care for the elderly
Opposition to Nixon Health Insurance Program (1971-1974)

Among the correspondents are:

Joe Bonno
Andy Brown
Edward Connor
Kenneth House
Carroll Hutton
Karl Lindgren
Olga Madar
Woodcock
Dave Miller

Louis Miriani
Roy Reuther
Walter Reuther
Ernie Scott
Del A. Smith
Eugen Van Antwerp
Leonard

Contents

8 manuscript boxes

Part 1

Series I, General Subject Files, 1950-1953, Box 1:

Correspondence, minutes and other materials relating to International Recreation programs, tournaments and leagues.

Part 2

Series II, Recreation and Community Services, 1950-1976, Boxes 2-5: Correspondence, clippings, essays, publicity, reports and other materials concerning UAW Recreation Department activities. There are also a few items relating to community services.

Series III, Retirement Organizations, 1956-1981, Boxes 6-8:

Correspondence, various council minutes and other material concerning Mr. D'Agostino's work in union organizations, especially the UAW International Retired Workers' Advisory Council.

Non-manuscript Material:

Seven photographs relating to the UAW Recreation Council and its activities have been placed in the Archives Audio Visual Collection.

Part 1

Series I
General Subject Files, 1950-1953
Box 1

Correspondence, minutes, publicity and other items concerning programs of the UAW International Recreation Department. Most of the materials relate to tournaments and leagues organized for the period 1950-1953. Files are arranged alphabetically by subject.

Box 1

1. Coloring Contest, 1955-1957
2. Fair Practices and Civil Rights Conference, Jan 1956
3. Golf Tourneys and Leagues, 1950-1951
4. Golf Tourneys and Leagues, 1952
5. Golf Tourneys and Leagues, 1953
6. Golf Tourneys and Leagues, 1954
7. Golf Tourneys and Leagues, 1955-1959
8. Greater Detroit CIO Recreation Council Minutes, 1953-1955, 1961
9. K-M-0 (Kent, Montcalm, Ottawa) Recreation Council 1951-1956

10. Local Recreation Programs, Aug 1954
11. Miscellaneous Non-Recreation
12. Miscellaneous Recreation
13. Recreation Leadership, 1953-1954
14. Recreation Leadership, 1955-1963
15. Rifle and Pistol Club, 1951-1956
16. Wage Increase for City of Detroit Recreation Employees, Jun 1954

Part 2

Series II
Recreation and Community Service, 1950-1976
Boxes 2-5

Correspondence, clippings, essays, publicity, reports and other materials. Most of the materials relate to Mr. D'Agostino's activities in the domain of recreation in the Greater Detroit area, but there are some items relating to activities in Pittsburgh and elsewhere. In addition, some materials treat the social problems and community services of the period. Files are arranged alphabetically by subject or type of material.

Box 2

1. Arts, Theatre, and Music, 1958-1963
- 2-4. Automation; Clippings, Essays, 1955-1966
5. Boxing, 1952-1953
6. Camping Club, n. d.
7. Chess and Checkers Tournaments, 1965
8. Conservation Programs, 1957-1967
9. Consumer Affairs Committee, 1974-1976
- 10-12. Deprived Area Recreation Team Progress Reports, Sep 1969
13. Donkey Ball Tournament, 1960
14. Education for Leisure Summer School Instructor's Outline, 1965
- 15-16. Essays on Recreation, 1949, 1957-1961
17. Family Night Recreation Program, 1960-1966
18. Fund Raising Ideas, 1959-1962
19. Girls' Softball Club, 1962-1965
- 20-22. Greater Detroit UAW Recreation Council ; Reports, Bulletins, 1951-1965 23-25. Greater Detroit UAW recreation Council; minutes, 1953, 1956-1964

Box 3

1. Hobby Shows, 1954, 1956
2. International Bowling Tournaments, 1959-1961
3. International UAW Recreation Department Program Summary, Nov 1967
4. Inter-Office Correspondence, 1958-1966
5. Lad-Lassie 1954 Bowling Tourney, Nov 1954
6. Leisure and Recreation Essays, 1956-1964
7. Library Service to Labor, Summer 1960
8. Madar, Olga; correspondence, clippings, 1962-1970
9. Medicare Conference, 17 Oct 1966
- 10-13. Michigan-Ontario CIO/ UAW Recreation Conferences, 1950-1953
14. Miller, Dave; Obituary, Feb 1979
- 15-17. National Health Security Program, 1971
18. New Detroit Magazine; correspondence, 1971
19. New Game Idea Folder, 1956-1964
20. New World Chorus; correspondence, 1961-1963

Series II (continued)

Box 4

1. Nixon Health Insurance Program, 1971-1974
2. Northeast Recreation Association Minutes, Jan-Feb 1967
3. Ohio CIO Summer School, 1953
4. Parks and Recreation; correspondence, reports, 1957-1973
5. Party Planning; correspondence, publicity, 1963-1967
- 6-7. Picnic Planning; correspondence, publicity, programs, 1956-1965
8. Pittsburgh Area Bowling Tournament, 1963-1965
9. Pittsburgh Golf Tournament, 1964
10. Recreation Leadership Institute; correspondence, membership lists, 1956-1958
11. Region 1 Greater Detroit Golf Tournament, 1961-1964
12. Region 1 Summer School 1964
13. Region 1-1A Bowling Tournaments, 1963, 1965-1966
- 14-15. Region 1-1A Michigan Ontario Summer School, 1953, 1961
16. Region 1A Golf Tournaments, 1964-1965
17. Region 1A Port Huron UAW Summer School, 1951, 1961
18. Region 1D Grand Rapids UAW Summer School, 1957-1966
19. Region 2 Annual Bowling Tournament Report, 1963
20. Region 2 Annual Bowling Tournament Report, 1965
21. Region 2 Kent Ohio Summer School 1965-1966

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1. Region 2A Athens Ohio Summer School, 1955-1960
2. Region 2A Columbus Area Recreation Council; correspondence 1964-1965
3. Region 2A Golf Tournament, 1964
4. Region 2A Springfield Area Recreation Council; correspondence, 1963-1964
5. Region 2A UAW Conference Evaluation Reports, Jul 1963
6. Region 3 Purdue University Summer School, 1951, 1959, 1966
7. Region 5 Education Seminars, 1965-1966
8. Region 5 Miami Oklahoma Summer School, 1951-1971
9. Region 8 Black Mountain North Carolina Summer School, 1964-1966
- 10-11. Region 9 New Jersey Recreation Council, 1962-1966
- 12-13. Social Recreation Workshops, 1953, 1963
14. Sports Insurance, 1964
15. Staff Inter-Office Correspondence, 1959, 1961-1967
16. Staff Recreation Reports, 1959, 1962-1967
17. Summer School General Information; correspondence, reports, 1951-1967
18. Summer School Recreation Leadership Training, 1958
19. Syracuse New York Area Recreation Council By-laws, n. d.
20. UAW International Recreation Department Reports, 1947-1957, 1964-1966
21. UAW Songs, n. d.
22. Wheel Chair Basketball, 1963-1966
23. Windsor Area Recreation Committee; correspondence, 1965-1966
24. Women's Basketball, 1965
- 25-26. Women's Slow Pitch Softball, 1962-1967
27. Youth Programs, 1949, c. 1958

Series III
Retirement Organizations, 1956-1981
Boxes 6-8

Clippings, correspondence, essays, publicity, reports and other material concerning retirement. Most of this material relates to projects and union-sponsored activities for retired workers. However, some items treat a variety of larger community services. Of special interest is President Kennedy's proposal for a Social Security funded medical care system for the elderly. Files are arranged alphabetically by subject.

Box 6

1. A Promise Made is a Promise Kept; Theater script, Jan 1980
2. Canadian UAW Retired Worker Council Conference, May-Jun 1971
- 3-5. Consumer Education for the Elderly; Final Report, 1977
6. Crime and the Older Citizen Seminar, Jun 1977
7. Detroit Street Railway Reduced Fare Plan for Seniors, 1957
8. The Forand Bill; Health Insurance, 1958-1962
9. Golden Age Club Directory New York State, 1955
10. Golf Tournament for Senior Citizens, 1966
11. Grand Rapids Catholic Diocesan Services to Seniors, c. 1965
12. Handbook on Retired Workers, 1956
13. History of Retirement and Retired Workers' Program, 1954, 1958
- 14-15. Kennedy Health Insurance Program, 1960-1963
16. The Learning of Swimming by Senior Citizens; Research project, 1960
17. Metropolitan Detroit Steering Committee; Minutes, 1958-1959
18. Michigan Legislative Committee on Aging; Retirees' testimony, 1977

Box 7

1. National Council of Senior Citizens, 1961-1964
2. Neighborhood Opportunity Centers for the Elderly, Jul 1965
3. New Horizons; Senior Citizens' UAW Constitutional Convention, 1965
4. Organizing Club Activities with Older People; Manual, 1956
5. Pension and Benefit Programs, 1958-1962, 1972
- 6-7. Picnics for Retirees; correspondence, publicity, bulletins, 1958-1962
- 8-9. Pre-Retirement Planning; University seminars, 1961, 1974-1981
10. Recreation Association of Michigan Gerontology Committee, 1964-1965
11. Recreation Committee Program for Seniors; clippings, program outline, 1964-1972
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13. Region 1E Retired Workers Council, 1971-1973
14. Region 5 Community and Consumer Services Leadership Seminar, 1977
15. Seminars on Senior Citizens and Retirement, c. 1963-1965
- 16-18. Seniors Action Coalition; Correspondence, minutes, reports, 1972-1974

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1. Senior Centers, 1963
- 2-4. UAW International Retired Workers Advisory Council, 1968-1975
- 5-6. UAW Retired Workers Center, 1956-1964
7. UAW Retired Workers' Council; minutes, Oct 1966- Jun 1967
8. United Steelworkers of America Services to the Elderly Report, c.1958
9. Walter Reuther's Statement on Medical Care for Seniors, 1959

10. Wayne County UAW Retired Workers' Council; minutes, 1969-1973
11. White House Conference on Aging, 23 Mar 1971
- 2-14. Writers' Group Journal, 1958-1960

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