

American Royal Parade Photographs (P40)

Introduction

This collection contains 44 photographs of the American Royal Parade by amateur photographer, Carl A. Flueckinger. The photographs show scenes from the American Royal parades ca. 1948-1950.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Carl A. Flueckinger
Title: American Royal Parade Photographs
Dates: 1948-1950
Size: 0.1 linear feet, 2 folders
Collection Number: P40

Donor Information

Gift, 2016, Teresa Lally.

Citation Note

American Royal Parade Photographs (P40), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Administrative Information

Related Collections: Additional information relating to the American Royal includes photographs from General Photographs (P1) and South Central Business Association Records (P14); as well as *1983 Media Guide to the American Royal* (MVSC Q636.081 A51m) and *The American Royal, 1899-1999* (MVSC Q636.081 P34AM).

Historical Sketch

The American Royal is a Kansas City institution dating back to 1899 when the first livestock exhibition was held in the stockyards district. A 1901 newspaper editorial suggested calling the livestock show the “American Royal” after a comparison to the British Agricultural Royal in England was made. Then in 1905 organizers added a horse show to the exhibition and it has since been known as the “American Royal Live Stock and Horse Show.” With the help of the Kansas City Stock Yards Company, a new building was completed in 1922 to house the popular event. Additionally, some events were held in Kemper Arena after it was built in 1974. The American Royal continued to thrive throughout the years, adding events such as a parade, rodeo, and barbecue competition, and is still active today.

The American Royal Parade, an event to kick-off the annual Royal festivities, was first introduced in 1926. The parade has generally followed a route through the downtown, but in 2015 moved to the Truman Sports Complex to coincide with the start of the barbecue competition.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains 44 photographs of the American Royal Parade. Photographs show street scenes of the parade, individuals in parade outfits, and two photographs of men at a table drinking Goetz Country Club beer. The photographs have been identified by the donor as being taken during American Royal parades from approximately 1948-1950 by Carl Alfred Flueckinger. The collection is arranged by size of photograph.

Collection Inventory

- f. 1 American Royal Parade Photographs, ca. 1948-1950; 2 ½" x 3 ½"
- f. 2 American Royal Parade Photographs, ca. 1948-1950; 5" x 7"

Processed by Kara Evans, Special Collections Librarian/Archivist, March 2016