

Chautauqua Vertical File

Programs

Pontiac Chautauqua Assembly (Madge Dargan's Programs)

Years: 1909, 1910, 1912 (missing cover), 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929.

"Chautauqua '76 June 16-20, 1976 – Bridging The Past To The Present."

Newspaper Articles/Clippings

"Children's Pageant Friday." Clipping advertising a children's pageant at Pontiac Chautauqua and lists all the children involved. No source given.

"Coming Chautauqua – Practical Project Promoted for Pontiac." *Pontiac Daily Leader*, Nov. 19, 1897. Photocopy. Start of Chautauqua Movement in Pontiac, IL.

"Chautauqua Course – Project Being Perfected by Pontiac People." *Pontiac Daily Leader*, Nov. 27, 1897. Photocopy. Start of Chautauqua Movement in Pontiac, IL.

"Officers Organized – Completion of City's Chautauqua Course." *Pontiac Daily Leader*, Dec. 24, 1897. Photocopy. Chautauqua committee members named.

"Progressive Pontiac." *Pontiac Daily Leader*. Jan. 31, 1898. Photocopy. Letter to the editor from Aunt Jubelina.

"Coming Chautauqua – Arrangements are Adjusted for Assembly." *Pontiac Daily Leader*. July 26, 1898. Photocopy.

2 articles from *Pontiac Daily Leader* (no title) from start and end of the first Chautauqua in Pontiac. Dated: July 29, 1898 and Aug. 12, 1898 respectively. Photocopy.

6 short articles from *Free Trader and Observer*, Pontiac, IL. All articles are from 1898 and give updates on the Pontiac Chautauqua Association. Photocopy.

"Chautauqua Will Open Tomorrow." *Pontiac Daily Leader*. July 22, 1903. Photocopy.

Two pictures: "Officers of Chautauqua Association" and "Chautauqua Directory Board." *Pontiac Daily Leader*. July 22, 1903. Photocopy.

"1915 Chautauqua Dates Are Set." *Pontiac Daily Leader*. July 28, 1914. Photocopy.

Untitled article and images of the 1917 Chautauqua Assembly management and a schedule for the 1917 Pontiac Chautauqua. Photocopy.

- “32D Session of Chautauqua to Open Friday.” *Pontiac Daily Leader*. July 30, 1929. Photocopy.
- “Chautauqua Crowds Were Biggest.” Ellen Fernandez. *Pontiac Daily Leader*. Aug. 2, 1957. Photocopy. (NOTE: Two pages).
- “Chautauquas Once Were a Way of Life.” Jim Bradley. *Pontiac Daily Leader*. July 24, 1965. Original. (NOTE: FIRST of Series).
- “Pontiac Joins Spreading Chautauqua Movement.” Jim Bradley. *Pontiac Daily Leader*. 1965. Original. (NOTE: SECOND of Series).
- “Pontiac Hosted Outstanding Chautauqua for 30 Years.” Jim Bradley. *Pontiac Daily Leader*. 1965. Original. (NOTE: LAST of Series – Two pages).
- “Chautauqua Park Was Once Scene of Bustling Summer Assemblies.” William Tipler. *Pontiac Daily Leader*. Oct. 3, 1968. Photocopy.
- “Chautauqua Park Was Once Scene of Bustling Summer Assemblies.” William Tipler. *Pontiac Daily Leader*. Oct. 3, 1968. Photocopy. (Same as above article but includes a picture of the Chautauqua Assembly entrance and this article is attached to a larger sheet of paper).
- “Scene at Pontiac, Ill. Chautauqua, July 23 – Aug. 3, 1913.” Photocopy of postcard image of people swimming and canoeing in the Vermillion River with a caption that reads: “1913 Pontiac Chautauqua Postcard.” *Pontiac Daily Leader*, March 25, 1969.
- “Birth of the Pontiac Chautauqua.” Connie McDugle. *Pontiac Daily Leader*. July 30, 1987. Photocopy. (NOTE: Article in TWO pieces).

Chautauqua Days/100th Anniversary

Programs

- “Vermillion Players Presents: The Spirit of the Chautauquas, A Musical Tribute.”** Sept. 5, 1998.
- “Chautauqua Days Gospel Service: ‘A Celebration of Gospel Music.’”** Aug. 6, 1998.
- “Chautauqua Celebration Hymnal.”** Sept. 6, 1998. 17 pages of photocopied hymns.
- “Chautauqua Days at Chautauqua Park, Pontiac, Illinois.”** Sept. 5th and 6th, 1998. Gives schedule and information about entertainment provided by impersonators and local ensembles.

Press Releases

Four press releases: One announces the plans for a 100th anniversary celebration of the original Pontiac Chautauqua. The other three announce entertainers for the anniversary celebration. There is one press release per entertainer. Featured are Dan Barth's "Old Time Medicine Show," Loren Taylor's portrayal of Mark Twain, and Robert Lindsey's portrayal of Abraham Lincoln.

Advertisement page for Kevin Radaker's impersonation of Henry David Thoreau.

Poster for Chautauqua anniversary with dates and phone numbers on one side and schedule of activities and performances on the other.

"Chautauqua at Pontiac, IL." Presentation given by Peg Spalding, Sept. 5, 1998, at Pontiac Chautauqua Centennial Rededication Ceremony. Includes photocopies of an article about A.C. Folsom Pontiac Chautauqua founder, stock certificate for the Pontiac Riverview Chautauqua Association, and a photograph taken at the 1904 Pontiac Chautauqua. People named in this photograph: Mrs. Minerva Ellen Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. E.M. Johnson, Mary Eunice Johnson, Beulah Evelyn Johnson, Mr. John Alexander Beach.

Artifacts

Postcards – 6 cards

"Interurban Park, Bet. Odell and Pontiac, ILL." Color image of baseball game and people at the park pavilion.

Image of the entrance and ticket booth for Pontiac Chautauqua.

"At Pontiac Chautauqua, Pontiac, ILL." Color image of entrance and ticket booth to the Chautauqua.

"Chautauqua Park Auditorium, Pontiac, Illinois." – Shows people lined up outside auditorium. Baker Photo.

"L.H. Chautauqua 1916 Board of Directors." - Nine men lined up outside.

"L.H. Chautauqua Photo Schiller." – View of park trees, buildings, and small wooden bridge with women and children seated on it.

Tickets – Two yellow Pontiac Chautauqua Adult Season Tickets, 1914. No. 17650 and 17651. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hudson. Holes punched around sides of tickets.

Red Pontiac Chautauqua Auto Season Ticket, 1914. No. 811. Mr. Walter Hudson. Holes punched around sides of ticket.

Button/Pin – "Chautauqua Assembly Pontiac, Illinois." Small round button pinned to envelope with color image of a lady standing outside a tent and the date, July 28 – Aug. 10, 1898, underneath. Outside of envelope has "Mrs. C.M. Dargan" written on it.

Small Programs

“ ‘Katcha Koo’ A Summer Musical Extravaganza.” Chautauqua Park Pontiac, ILL., July 8, 1919. Presented by John B. Rodgers Producing Co. and the Amateur Musical Club. Features local sponsors’ advertisements.

“Pontiac Chautauqua” song pamphlet with verses for 26 songs: patriotic, religious, and popular.

“Sun-Up” – Small handbill for a play in three acts by Lula Vollmer. Presented by The Redpath Bureau, Chicago and staged by Redpath Bureau’s Producing Dept., New York City.

Miscellaneous documents

Chautauqua – by Martha K. Adams – Includes brief history of the Chautauqua Movement in the United States and in Pontiac, a hand-drawn map of Chautauqua Park showing the buildings and campers’ tents, and the play, *Chautauqua*.

Image of the Pontiac Chautauqua entrance ticket booth at Riverview Park with caption giving brief history. Photocopy from the Bank of Pontiac 1997 calendar.