



# Festival of the West, Inc. Records 1975-2001

Series #186



Processed by: Ronda Frazier  
Date Completed: August, 2015

Jefferson County Archives  
3500 Illinois St., Suite 2350  
Golden, CO 80401  
(303) 271-8448  
E-mail: [archivist@jeffco.us](mailto:archivist@jeffco.us)  
Website: [www.jeffco.us/archives](http://www.jeffco.us/archives)

## Overview of Records

---

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Creators:      | Festival of the West, Inc., Jefferson County Historical Commission, Jefferson County Fairgrounds  |
| Title:         | Festival of the West, Inc. Records  |
| Dates:         | 1975-2001   |
| Series Number: | 186   |
| Quantity:      | 11 boxes (9 Ltr Docs, 1 slim Ltr Doc, 1 F39), 4.67 cubic ft.  |
| Arrangement:   | Arranged chronologically in three series  |
| Abstract:      | Records documenting the annual Festival of the West celebration. The Festival of the West began as a project of the Jefferson County Historical Commission for the Centennial-Bicentennial celebration of July 3-4, 1976. It was ranked among the top 20 national bicentennial events. The event was so popular that the Board of County Commissioners asked the Historical Commission to continue it and it grew into one of the biggest 4th of July festivals in the Denver metropolitan area. Held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, the Festival of the West featured all local entertainers and included amusements, band concerts, gunfighters, museum tours, equestrian demonstrations by the Westernaires Riding Group, and professional fireworks displays. |

## Administrative Information

---

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Access Restrictions: | None  |
| Use Restrictions:    | None  |
| Preferred Citation:  | Item Description; Box number, Folder number; Festival of the West, Inc. Records, 1975-2001; Series #186; Jefferson County Archives, Golden, Colorado. |
| Provenance:          | The Jefferson County Fairgrounds transferred the Festival of the West Records to the Archives in 2004.  |
| Related Records:     | None  |

## **History Note**

---

The Festival of the West began as a Centennial-Bicentennial project of the Jefferson County Historical Commission. A “dress rehearsal” was held in July, 1975, followed by the big Centennial-Bicentennial celebration July 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>, 1976. The event was so popular that the County Commissioners asked the Historical Commission to continue it.

In 1980, a separate non-profit corporation was formed to perpetuate the Festival, which continued to be one of the largest 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations in the Denver Metro area. Members of the Festival Committee volunteered their time and talent, and were dedicated to producing an event worthy of Jefferson County and of commemorating our national birthday. Attendance each year averaged about 21,000 people over the two days.

The Westernaires, Jefferson County’s own precision mounted youth drill team, were involved since the inception of the Festival, volunteering countless hours to practice and presenting their precision riding maneuvers and taking parking fees at the gate. Other volunteers such as the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Department Reserves, Youth Division, K-9 Corps, and Mounted Posse helped with crowd control, parking, and arena show activities. The Jeffco High School Rodeo Team helped the Fairgrounds staff with trash and grounds clean up. The West Metro Fire District provided fire protection during the fireworks shows. Traffic control was directed by the Jefferson County Sheriff’s Department, Golden and Lakewood Police Departments, and Colorado State Patrol. In addition, the Jefferson County Fairgrounds manager and staff and county electricians were an indispensable part of the Festival team making the Festival truly a county-wide effort to provide a fun-filled family event for the entire metropolitan area.

The Festival ended with the 2001 event.

## **Scope and Content Note**

---

The Festival of the West records are arranged chronologically as originally received, into three series. Original folder titles were maintained where possible. Multiple copies/items were weeded and copies of personal checks were removed and shredded.

Series I: Administrative Files contains budget and accounting records such as annual budget requests, cash flow reports, and revenue and expenditures; contracts and agreements between the county and the Festival of the West, agreements for law enforcement services, and contracts for fireworks; liability insurance documents; fireworks display permits, bonds, and special event permits; festival committee meeting minutes; vendor applications, correspondence, and surveys; publicity; and traffic control plans.

Series II: Photographs contains black and white and color photos and negatives of performers, festival attendees, festival committee and historical commission members, VIPs, venues, and Westernaires performances.

Series III: Ephemera contains buttons and a tie tack; ribbons with the JHC/76 logo; broadsides; and special advertising supplements to the newspapers with official event programs.

## Container List

### Series I: Administrative Files

|                              |       |           |
|------------------------------|-------|-----------|
| Administrative Files, 1975   | Box 1 | Folder 1  |
| Administrative Files, 1976   | Box 1 | Folder 2  |
| Administrative Files, 1977   | Box 1 | Folder 3  |
| Administrative Files, 1978   | Box 1 | Folder 4  |
| Budget/Accounting, 1979      | Box 1 | Folder 5  |
| Miscellaneous, 1979          | Box 1 | Folder 6  |
| Publicity, 1979              | Box 1 | Folder 7  |
| Budget/Accounting, 1980      | Box 1 | Folder 8  |
| Meeting Minutes, 1980        | Box 1 | Folder 9  |
| Miscellaneous, 1980          | Box 1 | Folder 10 |
| Permits, 1980                | Box 1 | Folder 11 |
| Publicity, 1980              | Box 1 | Folder 12 |
| Budget/Accounting, 1981      | Box 1 | Folder 13 |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1981 | Box 1 | Folder 14 |
| Meeting Minutes, 1981        | Box 1 | Folder 15 |
| Miscellaneous, 1981          | Box 1 | Folder 16 |
| Publicity, 1981              | Box 1 | Folder 17 |
| Budget/Accounting, 1982      | Box 1 | Folder 18 |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1982 | Box 1 | Folder 19 |
| Insurance, 1982              | Box 1 | Folder 20 |
| Meeting Minutes, 1982        | Box 1 | Folder 21 |
| Miscellaneous, 1982          | Box 1 | Folder 22 |

## Container List

### Series I: Administrative Files (cont.)

|                              |       |           |
|------------------------------|-------|-----------|
| Publicity, 1982              | Box 1 | Folder 23 |
| Budget/Accounting, 1983      | Box 1 | Folder 24 |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1983 | Box 1 | Folder 25 |
| Fiddle Contest, 1983         | Box 1 | Folder 26 |
| Insurance, 1983              | Box 1 | Folder 27 |
| Meeting Minutes, 1983        | Box 1 | Folder 28 |
| Miscellaneous, 1983          | Box 1 | Folder 29 |
| Publicity, 1983              | Box 1 | Folder 30 |
| Budget/Accounting, 1984      | Box 1 | Folder 31 |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1984 | Box 1 | Folder 32 |
| Insurance, 1984              | Box 1 | Folder 33 |
| Meeting Minutes, 1984        | Box 1 | Folder 34 |
| Miscellaneous, 1984          | Box 1 | Folder 35 |
| Permits, 1984                | Box 2 | Folder 1  |
| Publicity, 1984              | Box 2 | Folder 2  |
| Budget/Accounting, 1985      | Box 2 | Folder 3  |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1985 | Box 2 | Folder 4  |
| Insurance, 1985              | Box 2 | Folder 5  |
| Meeting Minutes, 1985        | Box 2 | Folder 6  |
| Miscellaneous, 1985          | Box 2 | Folder 7  |
| Permits, 1985                | Box 2 | Folder 8  |
| Publicity, 1985              | Box 2 | Folder 9  |

## Container List

### Series I: Administrative Files (cont.)

|                              |       |           |
|------------------------------|-------|-----------|
| Vendor Surveys, 1985         | Box 2 | Folder 10 |
| Budget/Accounting, 1986      | Box 2 | Folder 11 |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1986 | Box 2 | Folder 12 |
| Insurance, 1986              | Box 2 | Folder 13 |
| Meeting Minutes, 1986        | Box 2 | Folder 14 |
| Miscellaneous, 1986          | Box 2 | Folder 15 |
| Publicity, 1986              | Box 2 | Folder 16 |
| Vendor Surveys, 1986         | Box 2 | Folder 17 |
| Budget/Accounting, 1987      | Box 2 | Folder 18 |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1987 | Box 2 | Folder 19 |
| Insurance. 1987              | Box 2 | Folder 20 |
| Meeting Minutes, 1987        | Box 2 | Folder 21 |
| Miscellaneous, 1987          | Box 2 | Folder 22 |
| Permits, 1987                | Box 2 | Folder 23 |
| Publicity, 1987              | Box 2 | Folder 24 |
| Vendor Surveys, 1987         | Box 2 | Folder 25 |
| Budget/Accounting, 1988      | Box 2 | Folder 26 |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1988 | Box 2 | Folder 27 |
| Insurance, 1988              | Box 2 | Folder 28 |
| Meeting Minutes, 1988        | Box 2 | Folder 29 |
| Miscellaneous, 1988          | Box 2 | Folder 30 |
| Permits, 1988                | Box 2 | Folder 31 |

## Container List

### Series I: Administrative Files (cont.)

|                              |       |           |
|------------------------------|-------|-----------|
| Publicity, 1988              | Box 3 | Folder 1  |
| Vendors, 1988                | Box 3 | Folder 2  |
| Budget/Accounting, 1989      | Box 3 | Folder 3  |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1989 | Box 3 | Folder 4  |
| Insurance, 1989              | Box 3 | Folder 5  |
| Meeting Minutes, 1989        | Box 3 | Folder 6  |
| Miscellaneous, 1989          | Box 3 | Folder 7  |
| Permits, 1989                | Box 3 | Folder 8  |
| Publicity, 1989              | Box 3 | Folder 9  |
| Vendors, 1989                | Box 3 | Folder 10 |
| Budget/Accounting, 1990      | Box 3 | Folder 11 |
| Contract, 1990               | Box 3 | Folder 12 |
| Insurance, 1990              | Box 3 | Folder 13 |
| Meeting Minutes, 1990        | Box 3 | Folder 14 |
| Miscellaneous, 1990          | Box 3 | Folder 15 |
| Permits, 1990                | Box 3 | Folder 16 |
| Publicity, 1990              | Box 3 | Folder 17 |
| Budget/Accounting, 1991      | Box 3 | Folder 18 |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1991 | Box 3 | Folder 19 |
| Insurance, 1991              | Box 3 | Folder 20 |
| Meeting Minutes, 1991        | Box 3 | Folder 21 |
| Miscellaneous, 1991          | Box 3 | Folder 22 |

## Container List

### Series I: Administrative Files (cont.)

|   |       |           |
|---|-------|-----------|
| Permits, 1991                                   | Box 3 | Folder 23 |
| Publicity, 1991                                 | Box 3 | Folder 24 |
| Budget/Accounting, 1992                         | Box 3 | Folder 25 |
| Contracts, 1992                                 | Box 3 | Folder 26 |
| Fairgrounds Commitment, 1992                    | Box 3 | Folder 27 |
| Insurance, 1992                                 | Box 4 | Folder 1  |
| Meeting Minutes, 1992                           | Box 4 | Folder 2  |
| Miscellaneous, 1992                             | Box 4 | Folder 3  |
| Permits, 1992                                   | Box 4 | Folder 4  |
| Publicity, 1992                                 | Box 4 | Folder 5  |
| Budget/Accounting, 1993                         | Box 4 | Folder 6  |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1993                    | Box 4 | Folder 7  |
| Fairgrounds Commitment & Staff Checklists, 1993 | Box 4 | Folder 8  |
| Flea Market, 1993                               | Box 4 | Folder 9  |
| Health Department, 1993                         | Box 4 | Folder 10 |
| Insurance, 1993                                 | Box 4 | Folder 11 |
| Meeting Minutes, 1993                           | Box 4 | Folder 12 |
| Miscellaneous, 1993                             | Box 4 | Folder 13 |
| Permits, 1993                                   | Box 4 | Folder 14 |
| Press Package, 1993                             | Box 4 | Folder 15 |
| Publicity, 1993                                 | Box 4 | Folder 16 |
| Traffic Control, 1993                           | Box 4 | Folder 17 |

## Container List

### Series I: Administrative Files (cont.)

|   |       |           |
|---|-------|-----------|
| Budget/Accounting, 1994                         | Box 4 | Folder 18 |
| Contract, 1994                                  | Box 4 | Folder 19 |
| Fairgrounds Commitment & Staff Checklists, 1994 | Box 4 | Folder 20 |
| Insurance, 1994                                 | Box 4 | Folder 21 |
| Meeting Minutes, 1994                           | Box 4 | Folder 22 |
| Miscellaneous, 1994                             | Box 4 | Folder 23 |
| Permits, 1994                                   | Box 4 | Folder 24 |
| Publicity, 1994                                 | Box 4 | Folder 25 |
| Traffic Control, 1994                           | Box 5 | Folder 1  |
| Vendors, 1994                                   | Box 5 | Folder 2  |
| Budget/Accounting, 1995                         | Box 5 | Folder 3  |
| Community Garage Sale, 1995                     | Box 5 | Folder 4  |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1995                    | Box 5 | Folder 5  |
| Fairgrounds Commitment, 1995                    | Box 5 | Folder 6  |
| Insurance, 1995                                 | Box 5 | Folder 7  |
| Meeting Minutes, 1995                           | Box 5 | Folder 8  |
| Miscellaneous, 1995                             | Box 5 | Folder 9  |
| Permits, 1995                                   | Box 5 | Folder 10 |
| Publicity, 1995                                 | Box 5 | Folder 11 |
| Traffic Control, 1995                           | Box 5 | Folder 12 |
| Budget/Accounting, 1996                         | Box 5 | Folder 13 |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1996                    | Box 5 | Folder 14 |

## Container List

### Series I: Administrative Files (cont.)

|   |       |             |
|---|-------|-------------|
| Fairgrounds Commitment & Staff Checklists, 1996 | Box 5 | Folder 15   |
| Insurance, 1996                                 | Box 5 | Folder 16   |
| Meeting Minutes, 1996                           | Box 6 | Folder 1    |
| Miscellaneous, 1996                             | Box 6 | Folder 2    |
| Permits, 1996                                   | Box 6 | Folder 3    |
| Publicity, 1996                                 | Box 6 | Folder 4    |
| Traffic Control, 1996                           | Box 6 | Folder 5    |
| Vendors, 1996                                   | Box 6 | Folders 6-7 |
| Budget/Accounting, 1997                         | Box 6 | Folder 8    |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1997                    | Box 6 | Folder 9    |
| Fairgrounds Commitment & Staff Checklists, 1997 | Box 6 | Folder 10   |
| Insurance, 1997                                 | Box 6 | Folder 11   |
| Meeting Minutes, 1997                           | Box 6 | Folder 12   |
| Miscellaneous, 1997                             | Box 6 | Folder 13   |
| Permits, 1997                                   | Box 6 | Folder 14   |
| Questionnaires, 1997                            | Box 6 | Folder 15   |
| Traffic Control, 1997                           | Box 7 | Folder 1    |
| Vendors, 1997                                   | Box 7 | Folders 2-3 |
| Budget/Accounting, 1998                         | Box 7 | Folder 4    |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1998                    | Box 7 | Folder 5    |
| Fairgrounds Commitment & Staff Checklists, 1998 | Box 7 | Folder 6    |
| Insurance, 1998                                 | Box 7 | Folder 7    |

## Container List

### Series I: Administrative Files (cont.)

|  |       |             |
|--|-------|-------------|
| Meeting Minutes, 1998                                    | Box 7 | Folder 8    |
| Miscellaneous, 1998                                      | Box 7 | Folder 9    |
| Permits, 1998  | Box 7 | Folder 10   |
| Proposal – 99.5 FM The Hawk, 1998                        | Box 7 | Folder 11   |
| Publicity, 1998  | Box 7 | Folder 12   |
| Traffic Control, 1998                                    | Box 7 | Folder 13   |
| Vendors, 1998  | Box 7 | Folder 14   |
| Budget/Accounting, 1999                                  | Box 7 | Folder 15   |
| Contracts & Agreements, 1999                             | Box 7 | Folder 16   |
| Fairgrounds Commitment & Staff Checklists, 1999          | Box 7 | Folder 17   |
| Fairgrounds Multi-Purpose Building Ground Breaking, 1999 | Box 7 | Folder 18   |
| Insurance, 1999  | Box 7 | Folder 19   |
| Miscellaneous, 1999                                      | Box 7 | Folder 20   |
| Permits, 1999  | Box 7 | Folder 21   |
| Traffic Control, 1999                                    | Box 7 | Folder 22   |
| Vendors, 1999  | Box 8 | Folders 1-2 |
| Budget/Accounting, 2000                                  | Box 8 | Folder 3    |
| Contracts & Agreements, 2000                             | Box 8 | Folder 4    |
| Fairgrounds Multi-Purpose Building Dedication, 2000      | Box 8 | Folder 5    |
| Insurance, 2000  | Box 8 | Folder 6    |
| Miscellaneous, 2000                                      | Box 8 | Folder 7    |
| Permits, 2000  | Box 8 | Folder 8    |

## Container List

### Series I: Administrative Files (cont.)

|  |       |               |
|--|-------|---------------|
| Traffic Control, 2000                            | Box 8 | Folder 9      |
| Vendors, 2000                                    | Box 8 | Folders 10-11 |
| Budget/Accounting, 2001                          | Box 8 | Folder 12     |
| Contracts & Agreements, 2001                     | Box 8 | Folder 13     |
| Insurance, 2001                                  | Box 8 | Folder 14     |
| Miscellaneous, 2001                              | Box 8 | Folder 15     |
| Permits, 2001                                    | Box 8 | Folder 16     |
| Traffic Control, 2001                            | Box 9 | Folder 1      |
| Vendors, 2001                                    | Box 9 | Folders 2-3   |
| 2002 Budget Request & Preliminary Planning, 2001 | Box 9 | Folder 4      |

### Series II: Photographs

|   |       |               |
|---|-------|---------------|
| 1975 (Color Slides)   | Box 9 | Folder 5      |
| 1978 (B&W Prints)   | Box 9 | Folder 6      |
| 1980: Mary Bindner, Festival Committee (B&W Prints)   | Box 9 | Folder 7      |
| ca. Early 1980s: Jefferson County Historical Commission and other individuals, Construction Project (B&W Print, Negatives, Contact Sheet) | Box 9 | Folder 8      |
| 1983 (B&W & Color Prints and Negatives)   | Box 9 | Folder 9      |
| 1984: Daniel (Dan) L. Schaefer, US Representative, R-Colo, Honorary Chairman for 1984 Festival of the West (B&W Print)                    | Box 9 | Folder 10     |
| 1984 (B&W & Color Prints and Negatives)   | Box 9 | Folders 11-14 |
| 1985 (Color Prints only)  | Box 9 | Folder 15     |
| 1985 (B&W & Color Negatives only)   | Box 9 | Folder 16     |

## Container List

### Series II: Photographs (cont.)

|  |       |               |
|--|-------|---------------|
| 1987 (B&W Prints and Negatives)            | Box 9 | Folder 17     |
| 1987 (Color Prints only)                   | Box 9 | Folder 18     |
| 1987 (Color Prints & Negatives)            | Box 9 | Folders 19-24 |
| 1988 (Color Prints & Negatives)            | Box 9 | Folders 25-29 |
| 1995: Muddy Fairgrounds (Color Poloroids)  | Box 9 | Folder 30     |
| No Date (B&W & Color Prints and Negatives) | Box 9 | Folders 31-32 |

### Series III: Artifacts & Ephemera

|   |        |               |
|---|--------|---------------|
| Buttons (Festival of the West), 1981-1986, 1988, 1992, 1999, 2001   | Box 10 | Envelopes 1-3 |
| Ribbons (JHC 76 Logo), ca. 1975-1976, ca. 1976-1977, 1978, 1979   | Box 10 | Envelopes 4-6 |
| Ribbon (Festival Committee), 1985   | Box 10 | Envelope 7    |
| Tie-Tack (Colorado Centennial '76 Logo), ca. 1975-1976  | Box 10 | Envelope 8    |
| Special Advertising Supplements to Newspapers/Official Event Programs, 1975-1976, 1978-1979, 1982, 1993-1994, 1996-1999, 2001 | Box 11 | Folder 1      |
| Broadsides, 1977-1980, 1982, 1986-1992  | Box 11 | Folder 2      |