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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Evelyn “Evie” Akers was born in Kansas City, Kansas on September 10, 1934, to Davey and Retta Akers. Mr. Akers was an electrician on the Pullman Railroad, and as a child he had to quit school after the sixth grade to help support his mother and sister.

Evie lived in Overland Park, Kansas, and attended Shawnee Mission High School. Upon graduation in 1952, she began work for AT&T, and she retired in 1983 after 30 years of service to the company in a variety of accounting-related positions.

Her involvement in sports started in 1962. In Ms. Akers words (Feb 2011):

In 1962 a woman I worked with introduced me to a ladies bowling league and I developed friendships that lasted till the league discontinued in 2006. We attended WIBC National Tournaments all over the U.S. plus Kansas state and city tournaments. During this time, in 1974, I heard of a mixed gay league starting on Sunday afternoons at Mission Bowl, but was very hesitant due to my other bowling activities, and joining would be a daring step in those days. Anyway the next fifteen years were the wildest, most zany Sundays you can imagine. After three years we decided if we filled all 24 lanes (120 bowlers) and put a “full” sign on the door, we could keep curiosity-seekers out. That sounds strange now.

Ms. Akers’ talents as an organizer were well utilized as interest in gay and lesbian sports teams grew in the early 1980s. In the fall of 1980 she was involved with the founding of the Kansas City Coed Sports Association (KCCSA), which led to organization of several sports leagues, including a local bowling tournament, the Mid-America Kansas City Invitational Tournament (MAKIT); the Heart of American Sunday Softball League (HASSL); and the Dart League. Shuffleboard and horseshoe leagues were also sponsored by KCCSA for a period of six years.

As she entered retirement, Ms. Akers slowly removed herself from the organizational responsibilities of local intramural sports, but she continues to be an avid bowler. She currently resides in Overland Park, Kansas.

Source: biographical essay provided by Evie Akers, February 2011.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Evelyn “Evie” Akers Collection contains material that reflects the history of a variety of lesbian and gay social and amateur sports-oriented organizations. These organizations were active in the 1970s and 1980s, and included such sports as bowling, softball, horseshoes, darts, and shuffleboard. Ms. Akers was instrumental in founding the Kansas City Coed Sports Association in 1982, an effort to formally organize different types of amateur gay and lesbian sports teams. The scrapbook features newsletters, scoring sheets, photographs, and reminiscences written by Ms. Akers. Most of the photographs include captions as to the nature of the event, but are not completely identified. In addition, there is a section of the scrapbook that is composed of publicity stills of the band Fantasia, which featured Beverly Lynch. The scrapbook also contains Ms. Akers membership card to Pete’s Pub, a bar that primarily catered to the lesbian community, located on 47th Street just west of Rainbow Boulevard in Kansas City, Kansas; an historical list of Kansas City-area gay and lesbian bars; and several miscellaneous newspaper clippings.

The scrapbook was created by Ms. Akers, using vinyl page protectors for each page that were then stored in a three-ring binder. For preservation purposes, the pages were removed from the protectors and binder and placed in archival folders. The pages retain their original order.

Other materials, later donated by Ms. Akers include various other documents, including programs, periodicals and more, as well as a large collection of memorabilia, such as buttons, patches, and matchbooks. Also included is 318 photographs, most of which correspond to organizations and events that are represented in the scrapbook.

NOT TO BE USED FOR PUBLICATION

Box Folder Description**CONTAINER LIST****SERIES I: SCRAPBOOK**

Box	Folder	Description
1	1	Scrapbook cover
	2	Title page; Introduction; Table of Contents; Pete's Pub Membership Card
	3	Section 1: 10400 Club
	4	Section 2: SIS [Sisters in Sin] Club
	5	Section 3: Pete's League
	6	Section 4: IGBO [International Gay Bowling Organization]
	7	Section 5: K.C. Coed Sports Association
	8	Section 6: M.A.K.I.T. [Mid-America KCCSA International Tournament]
	9	Section 7: Horseshoes
	10	Section 8: Shuffleboard
	11	Section 9: Heart of America Softball League
	12	Section 10: Friday Night Cocktail Bunch
	13	Section 11: 50s Night
	14	Section 12: Bev Lynch's Band
	15	Section 13: Snapshot of Our Past
	16	Section 14: Misc.

SERIES II: OTHER DOCUMENTS

Box	Folder	Description
2	1	- [Stationary] IGBO '95: The Spirit of the North. - [Newspaper Clipping] "Late Nigh-" [cut off], by Hearne Christopher Jr., about the Late Night Theatre. - [Newspaper Ad] "Gay & Lesbian History Trolley Tour", October 9, 2010. - [Program] The Bad Seedling, Late Night Theatre, 18 pp. - [Program] The Killings at Kamp Tittekaka, Late Night Theatre, 2003, 8 th Season, 21 pp. - [Program] Late Night Theatre 2003 Season Program, 26 pp. - [Program] Tiffany's Attic, Dinner Playhouse, 6 pp.
	2	- [Program] The Krewe of Armeinius Presents Its 1977 Ball: The Girls of the Golden West, 2 pp. - [Promotional Magazine] La Cage aux Folles, The Musical Comedy, 30 pp. - [Flyer] "The Importance of Being Three's Company", Late Night Theatre. - [Flyer] "Save Ink", Save Inc.
	3	- [Periodical] IGBO [International Gay Bowling Organization] Newsletter, April 2007, Volume 27, No. 3, 28 pp. - [Periodical] IGBO Newsletter, April 2008, Volume 28, Number 3, 32 pp. - [Periodical] IGBO Newsletter, January 2009, Volume 29, No. 2, 28 pp.

Box	Folder	Description
(2	3)	- [Periodical] IGBO Newsletter, October 2009, Volume 30, Number 1, 32 pp.

SERIES III: MEMORABILIA

Box	Folder	Description
3	N/A	<u>Buttons and Pins</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- "10400 Club".- "Birds of a Feather (KC)".- Evie Akers: Ice Bowl '97, Omaha, NE, February 14-16.- Evie Akers: MAKIT '85.- HIT Milwaukee.- HIT '81, Milwaukee, November 26-28.- Hogs and Kisses, Milwaukee 2001.- "I Killed a Six-Pack—Just to Watch it Die".- I [Heart] Kansas City.- IGBO Los Angeles 1990.- IGBO Louisville.- IGBO Oklahoma City '94.- The Judy Garland Memorial Bowling League.- Kansas City Co-Ed Sports Association (2).- Louisville.- Omaha.- Series 9, Milwaukee 1985, "Capture the Spirit".- Show Me Classic, St. Louis '85, August 30-September 2, 1985.- Toronto: ...Affectionately Yours.- Toronto Historical Bowling Society. <u>Patches</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- SPCAA '79.- IGBO, Dallas '82 (2).- KCCSA 1st Invitational Softball Tournament, Kansas City '82 (2). <u>Matchbooks</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Memories Restaurant & Pub (Kansas City, MO).- Mission Bowl: Snack Bar, Pro Shop, Nursery (Mission, KS).- Starz on Broadway (Kansas City, MO).- The Windjammer (Kansas City, MO). <u>Souvenir/Commemorative Plastic Coins</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mardi Gras 1976: The Spirit of '76.- Mardi Gras 1977: Abigail Smith Adams.- Mardi Gras 1977: Governor William C.C. Claiborne.- Mardi Gras 1977: Irish Dollar.- Gay Fest: New Orleans June 20-26, 1981 (6). <u>Other</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- [Card] "Village Homos".- [Card] Tootsie's VIP Guest Card.- [Beer Can Holders] PRIDE Kansas City (2).

Box	Folder	Description
(3	N/A)	- [Souvenir Dice on a Chain] Harrah's Reno. - [Souvenir Lighter] K.C. Trollops. - [Souvenir Ceramic Head] IGBO '87.

SERIES IV: PHOTOGRAPHS

Box	Folder	Description
4	N/A	<u>Pete's League Started 1974 at Mission Bowl</u> - (1-14) Pete's League Mission Bowl Started 1974. - (15-20) Pete's League Banquet on a Barge on the MO. River. - (21-59) Pete's League Banquet. - (60-62) Pete's League Banquet – Tony Dipardos. - (63) Pete's League Trophies. <u>SIS Club (Men's Sisters in Sin): They Held a Ball Once a Year Every One Was Invited</u> - (64-66) Bob Marberry's 50 th Birthday Party, on Amtrak to St. Louis 1987. - (67-77) SIS Club at Bill Bennett's on Janssen Pl. - (78) SIS Club at Bill Bennett's on Janssen Pl.: Dave Dickerson, owner of TENT, on left – Jim Carter on right. - (79-102) SIS Club Ball. - (103) SIS Club Ball: Luther Boyt, who disappeared Nov. 2000. <u>Stepping Out Ball Held Once a Year</u> - (104-108) Stepping Out Ball 70's. - (109-110) Stepping Out Ball 70's, John Jenkins. - (111-143) Stepping Out Ball 70's. - (144) Stepping Out Ball 70's, John Jenkins. <u>SIS Club & 10400 Club Ball Game on Kansas Ave. in KCK</u> - (145-150). <u>10400 Club House Party (Social Club)</u> - (151-159) 10400 Club House Party. <u>10400 Club Box Dinner</u> - (160-171). <u>10400 Club On a Farm West of Shawnee, KS</u> - (172-185). <u>10400 Club Picnic, Holt, MO</u> - (186-196). <u>KCCSA (Kansas City Coed Sports Association) Activities</u> - (197-213) KCCSA Roller Skating on Sun. after Pete's League. - (214) KCCSA Coming Down to the Boat for an Afternoon on the Missouri River. <u>1st IGBO Tournament, Houston 1981</u> - (215-232). <u>2nd IGBO Tournament, Dallas 1982</u> - (233-235) 2 nd IGBO Tournament, Dallas 1982. - (236) 2 nd IGBO Tournament, Dallas 1982: Notice our KCCSA Shirt.

Box	Folder	Description
(4	N/A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- (237-249) 2nd IGBO Tournament, Dallas 1982.- (250) 2nd IGBO Tournament, Dallas 1982: Bowling Done for the Day.- (251) 2nd IGBO Tournament, Dallas 1982: Time to Play.<u>4th IGBO Tournament, Seattle 1984</u>- (252) Evie Akers: Seattle – IGBO 1984.- (253-259) 4th IGBO Tournament, Seattle 1984.- (260-262) 4th IGBO Tournament, Seattle 1984: K.C. Went as Wizard of Oz.- (263-264) 4th IGBO Tournament, Seattle 1984.<u>MAKIT (Mid-America Kansas City Invitational Tournament) Bowling Tournament</u>- (265) MAKIT Banquet Holiday Inn.- (266) MAKIT Banquet Waiting to Go On.- (267-277) MAKIT Banquet Holiday Inn.- (278) Benefit for MAKIT: Cabaret.- (279) Benefit for MAKIT: John Finncane Cabaret.- (280) Benefit for MAKIT: Ray Still of the “Trollops” at Arabian Nights (aka “The Tent”).- (281) Benefit for MAKIT: At Arabian Nights (aka “The Tent”).- (282) Benefit for MAKIT: At Arabian Nights (aka “The Tent”) – “Village People”.- (283) Benefit for MAKIT: At Arabian Nights (aka “The Tent”).- (284-285) Benefit for MAKIT: Cabaret.- (286) Benefit for MAKIT: At Arabian Nights (aka “The Tent”).- (287) Benefit for MAKIT: At Arabian Nights (aka “The Tent”) – John Jenkins.- (288) Benefit for MAKIT: One of the “Trollops”.- (289-290) Benefit for MAKIT: At Arabian Nights (aka “The Tent”) – Ed Shelley.- (291-292) Benefit for MAKIT: HASSL-Casino Party at Birds of a Feather.<u>5th IGBO Tournament, Louisville 1985</u>- (293).<u>7th IGBO Tournament, New Orleans 1987 Banquet</u>- (294-296).<u>HASSL (Heart of America Sunday Softball League)</u>- (297-299) HASSL: Sundays at Rosedale Park.- (300-301) HASSL: Volleyball During Ballgames on Sundays.- (302-303) HASSL: Sundays at Rosedale Park.- (304) HASSL: Serving Hot Dogs.- (305) HASSL: Tournament at Swope Park.- (306-310) HASSL: Out of Town.- (311) HASSL.- (312) HASSL: “I think this is Milwaukee’s Team”.- (313) HASSL: Milwaukee – 1985, NAGAA Tournament.- (314-318) NAGAA: Banquet at Tournament in Milwaukee 1985.