

DeKalb History Center

Decatur Federal Savings and Loan

Scope and Content: The Decatur Federal Collection comes from different sources, each with a different focus. There are documents on Robin Harris, descendent of Joel Chandler Harris and state representative and Decatur Federal and Julius McCurdy, a founder of the bank. There are organizational records such as a stock purchase ledger. Records range from 1924 through the 1990s.

Provenance: Various. Gifts of Linda Harris, ACC # 2002.100, Decatur Federal Savings and Loan, ACC # 1982.124 and Scotty Candler, ACC # 2011.6.

Access: Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. Permission to publish materials from this collection must be requested from the archivist, DeKalb History Center. Citation should be as follows:

Description of specific item; Decatur Federal Collection, DeKalb History Center Archives.

Processed by Jill Sweetapple, Archivist, 2011.

Size: 1 document box, 1 oversized document box, scrapbook box and laminated newspapers

Organizational History of Decatur Federal and its leaders: Attorney Julius McCurdy was elected an organizing director of the Decatur building and Loan Association at 21 years old, and served on the board, holding chairman emeritus in the 1990s. He was also president of the Decatur DeKalb Bar Association, the Decatur Rotary and a member of the Georgia General Assembly. He was also one of the founders of the DeKalb Historical Society in 1947 and served as its president.

James Robin Harris served as president and also as Chairman and CEO of Decatur Federal. He is the great grandson of Joel Chandler Harris and also served as chair of the Georgia State Representatives Judicial committee in the 1960s.

McCurdy and Harris were both involved in the McCurdy and Candler law firm with Scott Candler Jr. In 1955 the firm name was changed to McCurdy, Candler and Harris with the addition of J. Robin Harris as a partner. The firm name reverted to McCurdy & Candler in 1974 when Mr. Harris became President and later Chairman of Decatur Federal Savings and Loan Association, a long-time and major client of the firm prior to its merger with First Union National Bank.

Decatur Federal merged with First Union about 1993, which merged with Wachovia which was in turn bought by Wells Fargo in 2010.

Information from McCurdy and Candler LLC website:

<http://mccurducandler.com/index.html>

Description: The Decatur Federal collection, due to the individual donors, has a wide scope. There are organizational documents such as a crisis plan for use in the event of the death of a chairman or board president, internal memos, speech notes written by Bob McMahan for the Julius McCurdy citizenship award in 1990, press releases, and a program for a dedicated of the Julius and Louise McCurdy Biblical Garden. There are also newspaper clippings, annual reports and photographs. There are also some company records, such as a liability ledger from 1924 and a stock purchase ledger from 1928. There is a roll call sheet from the Georgia House and members booklet with Robin Harris listed as a member.

Subject Headings: Where possible, Library of Congress Subject Headings have been used.

Main Entry: Decatur Federal Savings and Loan, Decatur (Ga.)

Subject/Added Entries: DeKalb County (Ga.)
Decatur (Ga.)
Harris, James Robin (xxxx-1989)
McCurdy, Julius A. (1903-

Folder List

Box	Folder	Contents	Date(s)
1	1	35 th Anniversary booklet	1962
	2	Annual reports, excepting 1985	1974-1986
	3	<i>Atlanta Magazine</i>	March 1964
	4	The Decatur Federal Building pamphlet	
	5	<i>Emory Alumnus</i> magazine	March 1964
	6	<i>Emory</i> magazine	1977
	7	Georgia government documents	
	8	Photograph, building, 2002.100	
	9	<i>It's Fun to be Forty</i> , 45rpm vinyl record	
	10	<i>Making Money More</i> , 45rpm vinyl record	
	11	Miscellaneous documents, programs, press releases, Resumes for Julius and Walter P. McCurdy, speech Notes	
	12	Miscellaneous Newspapers, can find no bank related material	
	13	Newspaper clippings	
	14	<i>News Dividend</i> newsletter	1964
	15	Notepaper example	
	16	Photographs	
	17	Photographs – Julius McCurdy	
	18	Photographs – Robin Harris	
	19	Publicity materials	
	20	<i>What's New in Decatur Federal Land</i>	1972

Box	Contents	ACC 1982.124	Date(s)
2	Liability ledger		1924
	Stock purchase ledger		1928
	Milwaukee Mechanics' Insurance Ledger		1930s
ACC 2002.100			
3	Scrapbook of Robin Harris		
	Newspapers/clippings		
	"Back when...the nostalgia of the 40's," DeKalb News/Sun		Nov 13, 1974
	"New Biblical Garden Dedicated," DeKalb New Era		Dec 4, 1975
	"Heritage of DeKalb," DeKalb News/Sun (2)		July 22, 1981

In small map cabinet:

Atlanta Constitution, March 7, 1962 issue regarding Decatur Federal opening
(laminated)

Atlanta Journal, March 6, 1962 issue regarding Decatur Federal opening
(laminated)