

34
72

ANNUAL REPORT

County Extension Work

1953



Mrs. Dorothy H. Smith
Agent

Amelia

COUNTY

Asst. Agent

A N N U A L R E P O R T

A M E L I A C O U N T Y

December 1, 1952 - December 1, 1953

Dorothy H. Smith,
Home Demonstration Agent

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Cover and Title Page	
Table of Contents	
I. County Situation as It Affected the 1953 Program	1
II. Contributions of the 1953 Program To Better Family Living	2
III. Subject Matter Fields	3
A. Adult	
1. <u>Better Nutrition and Food Preparation</u>	3
a. Objectives	3
b. Methods	3
c. Results	4
2. <u>House Furnishings</u>	4
a. Objectives	4
b. Methods	5
c. Results	5
3. <u>Housing</u>	6
a. Objectives	6
b. Methods	6
c. Results	7
4. <u>Home Management</u>	8
a. Objectives	8
b. Methods	9
c. Results	9
5. <u>Home and Community Beautification</u>	12
a. Objectives	12
b. Methods	12
c. Results	13
6. <u>Home and Community Recreation</u>	13
a. Objectives	13
b. Methods	14
c. Results	14
B. 4-H Club	14
1. <u>Foods</u>	14
a. Objectives	14
b. Methods	15
c. Results	15
2. <u>Home and Farm Electrification</u>	16
a. Objectives	16
b. Methods	16
c. Results	17

Table of Contents, cont'd.

	Page
3. <u>Clothing</u>	17
a. Objectives	17
b. Methods	18
c. Results	18
4. <u>Room Improvement</u>	18
a. Objectives	18
b. Methods	18
c. Results	19
5. <u>Food Preservation - Canning and Freezing</u>	19
a. Objectives	19
b. Methods	19
c. Results	19
C. <u>Young Men and Women's Work</u>	19
a. Objectives	19
b. Methods	19
c. Results	20
IV Other Activities	
A. Adult	20
1. <u>Federation Goal</u>	20
a. Objectives	21
b. Methods	21
c. Results	22
2. <u>National Home Demonstration Week</u>	22
3. <u>Institute of Rural Affairs and State Federation</u>	23
4. <u>Achievement Program</u>	23
5. <u>County Fair</u>	23
6. <u>Work in Unorganized Communities</u>	24
7. <u>County Drives</u>	24
B. <u>4-H Clubs</u>	
1. <u>Camp and Shortcourse</u>	24
a. Objectives	24
b. Methods	24
c. Results	25
2. <u>National 4-H Club Week</u>	25
a. Objectives	25
b. Methods	25
c. Results	25
3. <u>County Fair</u>	26
4. <u>County Council</u>	26
5. <u>Contests</u>	26
a. Objectives	26
b. Methods	27
c. Results	27
6. <u>Rural Life Sunday</u>	27
a. Objectives	27
b. Methods	27
c. Results	28

Table of Contents, Cont.

	Page
7. <u>Monthly Programs</u>	28
a. <u>Objectives</u>	28
b. <u>Methods</u>	28
c. <u>Results</u>	28
C. <u>Young Men and Women's Activities</u>	28
V <u>Scope of Work</u>	29
A. <u>Organisation</u>	29
VI <u>Functions of Other Organisations</u>	29
A. <u>County Board of Agriculture</u>	29
B. <u>County Home Demonstration Committee</u>	29
a. <u>Spring Meeting</u>	30
b. <u>Fall Planning Meeting</u>	30
c. <u>4-H Club Work</u>	30
C. <u>County 4-H Project Planning Committee</u>	30
D. <u>County 4-H Council</u>	30
E. <u>County 4-H Honor Club</u>	31
F. <u>County All-Star Chapter</u>	31
G. <u>Other Organisations</u>	31
VII <u>Leadership</u>	31
A. <u>Home Demonstration Club Project Leadership</u>	32
B. <u>4-H Club Project Leadership</u>	32
CC <u>Use of Leaders - Adults</u>	32
D. <u>Use of Leaders - 4-H</u>	33
VIII <u>Work in Cooperation With Other Agencies</u>	34
IX <u>Appraisal of Year's Work</u>	34

SUMMARY OF HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK IN AMELIA COUNTY DECEMBER 1, 1952 to

DECEMBER 1, 1953

I. County situation as it affected the 1953 Program.

Amelia County consists of 371 square miles and has 643 white families. There are not any incorporated towns or industry other than a few sawmills and a milk receiving plant. The County is strictly agricultural, with very little income other than that derived from the farms.

Dairying has made significant progress in the past seven years in Amelia County and has become one of the leading types of agriculture. Beef cattle production has made great progress in Amelia County during the past five or six years, especially in the quality of cattle. There is a large percent of general farmers raising grain, hay, a few cattle, and selling cream and veals. Both flue and dark tobacco are grown in Amelia County. Seventy-five percent of the farms in the county grow some dark or flue-cured tobacco.

Camp Pickett is located 20 miles from the County Seat of Amelia. This camp was reopened in the spring of 1950. Many of the Amelia County people are working there, and the reopening of this camp has been a special incentive for the Amelia homemakers to begin working outside the home. Last year it was felt that these homemakers working at Camp Pickett had weakened the leadership in our Home Demonstration Clubs, but we now feel that we have trained new leaders, and our home demonstration work is progressing at an even keel. We have lost Home Demonstration Club members due to this opening.

The Agent feels that now more than ever there is a better understanding on the part of local people that all phases of home demonstration work are

interrelated and that the purpose of home demonstration work is to promote a higher standard of family life for all the people in Amelia County. The 1953 program has stimulated more interest in family relations, a greater pride in the home, making it a more attractive place in which to live, a keener understanding of money management and business and legal affairs of the family, continued work on labor saving devices and methods of doing work, and a better understanding of our 4-H Club program. In the majority of the county volunteer leadership and better standards among these leaders has been gratifying.

II. Contributions of the 1953 program to better family living.

The emphasis of the 1953 home demonstration program in Amelia County has been to contribute to family living and to increase the Extension influence throughout the county by stressing better use of family income, better use of time, more attractive and livable homes considering the understanding of all family members, better understanding of the family's business affairs, better family health through diet and improved mental attitudes. On a County-wide level we have stressed the beauty of the home and the county.

The 1953 program has emphasized some phases of all of the long-time objectives filling the needs expressed by the people. The program has recognized the basic needs of a better family life. It has stimulated more interest in family relations particularly from a monetary stand point. The Home Demonstration Club women as a whole have thought it the most timely program ever carried in the county.

The program lent itself to continued interest in community, national, and world needs and provided for continued cooperation with schools, health departments and other organizations of the county. The Agent placed special emphasis on reaching non-members through letters, radio, and personal contact.

III. Subject Matter Fields.

A. Adult

1. Better nutrition and food preparation

a. Objectives

- (1) Buymanship - a better recognition of food values and savings.
- (2) More attractive and palatable meals using cheaper cuts of meat.
- (3) Saving time in family living.
- (4) Better family living through better planned and served meals at low cost.
- (5) To show all interested persons how to prepare foods for freezing.

b. Methods

- (1) One or more special interest method demonstrations on freezing, preparation for freezing or canning and freezing prepared foods.
- (2) The needs were met through newspaper articles, radio broadcasts, mimeographed and bulletin material.
- (3) Club members carried information to other people not belonging to a Home Demonstration Club.

- (4) The Home Agent made numerous home visits to people in the county needing help along this line.

c. Results

- (1) Three freezing demonstrations were given. Two in local communities and one county-wide.
- (2) Freezing and canning bulletins were distributed to all clubs and other interested people in the county.
- (3) Help was given by the agent to school cafeterias and local clubs responsible for planning and serving community meals.
- (4) Several radio talks and timely hints were given on foods and nutrition.

2. House Furnishings.

a. Objectives

- (1) To develop an appreciation for the need of orderliness and beauty within the home.
- (2) To develop skills that the homemakers can carry over to other members of their family to help save money, and learn an appreciation for what they have.
- (3) To gain a feeling of satisfaction and pride as to the interior of their homes with emphasis placed on color schemes for the bedroom which is the most personal room of the home.
- (4) Women to feel the necessity and gain the satisfaction of completing the job.

b. Methods

- (1) Have a leader training meeting on do's and don'ts of buying paint, and suitable color schemes for bedrooms.
- (2) Leaders to hold one demonstration in each of the clubs and to assist the Home Agent with other demonstrations.
- (3) Have a county-wide workshop on refinishing picture frames, following monthly meetings on types of pictures for the home and proper hanging.
- (4) The Agent and Leaders to work with women not enrolled in Home Demonstration Club.
- (5) Press, radio, exhibits, circular letters, club members taking information to non-club members, and home visits.

c. Results

- (1) Agent conducted leader training meeting on do's and don'ts of paint with every club represented except one.
- (2) As result of the leader training meeting every club was given a demonstration on painting.
- (3) Many homes were redecorated on the interior.
- (4) Other than color scheme for the bedroom major emphasis was given to bed linens and bedspreads. After a demonstration given by the Agent in each of the clubs 150 candlewick bedspreads were completed all of which were done in white. An exhibit was shown at the Fair on bedspreads.
- (5) As a result of our workshop on picture frames 10 non-club members were reached and approximately 100 picture frames were restored. Ninety-seven club women reported rehanging pictures in the home.

- (5b) Thirteen Home Demonstration club women and the agent attend a color clinic at Miller and Rhoads. Much valuable information was obtained and these leaders will stage the same sort of demonstration in their communities.
- (6) In this phase of our work every Home Demonstration Club member in the county, and many non-club members completed at least one job.

3. Housing.

a. Objectives

- (1) Better houses - more with running water.
- (2) Special emphasis on labor saving kitchens.
- (3) Continue result demonstrations which are under way and work with interested families requesting help.
- (4) Encourage women to become more interested in learning minor household repairs.

b. Methods

- (1) Special work with any family requesting help on any phase of housing problem.
- (2) Home visits to families with projects underway.
- (3) Tour to see homes where improvements have been made.
- (4) One leader training meeting on minor household repairs that women can do.
- (5) Two leaders from each home demonstration club giving a demonstration back in their club on minor household repairs.
- (6) Radio programs giving help available in housing.
- (7) Make bulletins available to families in the county.
- (8) One county-wide meeting on water systems for the home.
- (9) A county survey to find families with running water in the home.

c. Results

- (1) Several families were given help on remodeling, extra storage space, convenient kitchens, and better arrangement of rooms for better working conditions.
- (2) Many Home Demonstration Club women visited other homes in the county where demonstrations had been completed on some phase of better housing.
- (3) The Professional Workers of Amelia County formed into a group to find out what could be done about more running water for the farms and homes of Amelia County. A survey was made of the county, both white and colored, to find out the number with running water and why those without it did not have it. I might add at this point that there were several Negroes working with us on this committee.

RESULTS OF THE WATER SURVEY

1. Do you have water under pressure (running water) in your home?

	White	Colored	Total
Yes	522	21	543
No	265	310	575

2. If answer to 1. is no, is it because of:

	W.	C.	Total
Cost	105	110	215
Insufficient water supply	27	41	68
Need for more information	25	50	75

3. Is the water system you now have adequate and satisfactory?

Yes	531	201	732
No	32	53	85

4. If you do not have a pressure water system in your home, have you ever considered installing one?

Yes	126	134	260
No	53	118	171

- (4) After the county-wide survey was made on water systems a county-wide meeting was held, with Mr. Waller, of the State Extension Service, leading a discussion on types of water systems. As a result of this meeting we found one white family in the county with the necessary funds for putting water in the home and on the farm including a bathroom, kitchen sink, and hot water tank. After making a lot of plans and doing the necessary preliminary work a demonstration was staged at this home and the water system completed including installation of all fixtures. Twenty-three people, both White and Negro, attended this demonstration. We hope our results will be far reaching and work will be continued on this project in the future.
- (5) The Home Agent gave three radio talks, and sent out two circular letters, and discussed in thirteen clubs the value of water in the home and on the farm.
- (6) A leader training meeting was held by Mr. Wheary on household repairs. Eighteen leaders attended this training meeting and gave a total of 12 demonstrations in their local clubs on minor household repairs that women can do. Many bulletins and leaflets were distributed on all phases of the housing program.

4. Home Management

a. Objectives

- (1) To help Amelia County homemakers realize the importance of family financial planning and create an interest in

devoting time to this phase of homemaking

- (2) To continue working for more interest in convenient kitchens and running water for all families in Amelia County.
- (3) To teach better methods for doing everyday work with special emphasis placed on ironing.
- (4) To place more emphasis on the necessity of planning our time in order to get into the work schedule the many duties of the housewife.
- (5) To conserve time and energy by helping the women of the county to get their sewing machines electrified.

b. Methods

- (1) The Home Agent gave a demonstration in 13 clubs on wise use of time.
- (2) A leader training meeting on better ironing methods.
- (3) Demonstration in all the clubs on business affairs.
- (4) Radio programs.
- (5) Home Visits.
- (6) Bulletins (Very Important)

c. Results

- * (1) Home Management has been given greater emphasis in the Home Demonstration Club program of Amelia County for the last three years. A great deal of emphasis has been placed on labor saving equipment, labor saving methods of doing things, wise use of time, convenient kitchen arrangements, use and care of electrical appliances and money management. *gt*

(2) The results of the water system could well be mentioned under home management, as it takes a lot of managing to get water into the homes. This has been a carry over project since 1950 showing continued progress and results. Home management has not been our major goal but has gotten a great deal of our time and effort, as this is a never ending problem when dealing with people and their homes. There is nothing that gets results in this field of Extension work like showing results and that is exactly what we have been doing.

(3) A leader training meeting was held by Miss Helen Alverson, Home Management Specialist, on better ironing methods. As a result of these leaders being trained, and holding a method demonstration in 13 communities, we have had 84 women reporting some change in their ironing methods to increase efficiency. I am sure there have been many others who have failed to report. At the Fair, in October, one Home Demonstration Club put on an educational exhibit on better ironing methods, using demonstration, bulletins and timely information to teach both Home Demonstration club women and non-club members the value of a job well done.

X (4) In my ten years experience as Home Demonstration Agent I believe from the standpoint of the entire family that

two of the best demonstrations and group discussions ever held were the ones on money management and business affairs. This information was needed and welcomed by both the men and women of the county and more non-club members were given this information than on any other subject we have discussed. Many business affairs were better understood and gotten into better condition as a result of these meetings. This will carry over into three night meetings to be held this winter for interested men and women in the county using a lawyer, insurance man, and banker to help clear up any questions these families may want to ask. Our motto has been "The less we have, the more we need to manage". H

- (5) A demonstration was given by the Home Agent in thirteen clubs on "The Wise Use of Time". By using a flannel graph and a clock showing all the hours of the day it was made very clear to the women how they were using their time and how they might use it to better advantage.
- (6) Some time was given to the purchase and use of electrical appliances, and a great deal of time will be given to the use in our 1954 Program.
- (7) Many radio talks were given on this subject.
- (8) Approximately a thousand bulletins were given out on some phase of the home management program.

5. Home and Community Beautification. - (Major Goal)

a. Objective

- (1) This comes under our major goal, and this is the second year we have worked on this goal.
- (2) We hope to establish a county dump.
- (3) To improve the rest room in the Court House.
- (4) To improve the appearance of mail boxes and entrances to homes in Amelia County.
- (5) To share plants and flowers with each other in order to make our project more far reaching.
- (6) To have a county-wide tour to the Azalea Gardens in Norfolk.
- (7) To get the streets of Amelia named.
- (8) To get the county roads named.
- (9) To interest the people of the county in doing road-side weed cutting along their property at least one time during the year.

b. Methods

- (1) The County Home Beautification Chairman will send out a monthly letter with timely information keeping all club members up to date with what has been done and what needs to be done.
- (2) Radio programs and bulletins.
- (3) Cooperation with other organized clubs interested in this phase of our program.

c. Results

- (1) The County Home and Community Beautification Chairman sent out eight newsletters to all the club members of the county.
 - (2) Three radio talks were given on this subject.
 - (3) Forty-eight women and the Agent went on a tour to the Azalea Gardens in Norfolk, and many of the women purchased azaleas to bring back and plant at home.
 - (4) One community and one county-wide plant exchange were held. The county-wide exchange was held at the Fair in October as many more women could cooperate.
 - (5) An educational exhibit on landscaping home grounds was on display at the County Fair.
 - (6) A county dump was established.
 - (7) Many of the farms were named.
 - (8) Many entrances and mail boxes were improved.
 - (9) The rest room in the courthouse was cleaned and painted.
 - (10) 2200 pansy plants were bought by club women and planted in October.
 - (11) Several yards were landscaped.
 - (12) One Home Demonstration Club started the landscaping and planting of the grounds around their community house.
6. Home and Community Recreation.

a. Objective

- (1) To help the people have a planned recreational program that the whole family can participate in.

- (2) To encourage recreation in communities in order to strengthen our 4-H Club program.
- (3) To encourage reading of good books particularly among Home Demonstration Club women.

b. Methods

- (1) Suggestions on planned recreational programs at home.
- (2) At least one planned recreational program in each community with special invitation to all potential 4-H Club members.
- (3) Get into the hands of each Home Demonstration Club member the Home Demonstration approved Good Reading List.

c. Results

- (1) Timely information was distributed to all club members on possible home recreational programs.
- (2) Two newsletters were sent out by our County leader on recreation for the home.
- (3) The Good Reading List was put into the hands of every Home Demonstration member.
- (4) There were eight community recreational meetings held with emphasis placed on 4-H Club work, thinking in terms of new members.
- (5) Every Home Demonstration Club held a recreational program in their respective communities.

B. 4-H Club

1. Foods

a. Objectives

- (1) To encourage 4-H Club members to improve eating habits for

better health and healthier attitudes.

- (2) Learn the value of well kept record.
- (3) To teach the boy and girl that a healthy body is a well fed body. To appeal to both boys and girls and children of all ages.

b. Methods

- (1) Hold special interest meetings using local leaders during the summer months, working with small groups.
- (2) Have both leaders and club members give demonstrations.
- (3) Give to the club members materials that have been compiled and furnished by specialists.
- (4) Have h-H Club members report on records and work done month by month.
- (5) To give publicity through Home Demonstration Clubs, press, radio, and circular letters to members and parents.
- (6) To have an educational exhibit at the Fair.
- (7) To have the county winner participate in the District Contest.

c. Results

- (1) Fifteen h-H Club girls carried a project in some phase of foods work. Ten completed this project.
- (2) The girls are learning the value of well kept records.
- (3) Materials were furnished the girls that would aid them in their project on foods.
- (4) An educational exhibit was put on at the County Fair on canning, and many of the girls entered their foods in open exhibits.

- (5) One girl plans to enter the District Contest in canning and one in food preparation.

2. Home and Farm Electrification

a. Objectives

- (1) One 4-H Club carrying unit 1 of this project.
- (2) Learn skills in the use of electricity to the best advantage in the home and on the farm, learning how to repair appliances as a means of saving home income and as a time saver.
- (3) Learn the value of good lighting in relation to health.

b. Methods

- (1) Cooperation with Public Utility Companies, with these companies giving four demonstrations during the year.
- (2) Four demonstrations to given by the Home Agent and the Assistant County Agent.
- (3) Each club member must teach someone else something he has learned.
- (4) Each club member to give at least one demonstration to individual or group.
- (5) A tour to a well electrified home and farm unit.
- (6) Each club member to make a contribution to better family living by taking care of at least two electrical appliances in the home.
- (7) The Agents are to reach other people and interest them in the value of electricity to farm and home through radio, human interest stories, and newsletters.

- (8) Club members learn evaluation of electrical appliances by keeping records of jobs done.
- (9) Tour to Buggs' Island Dam.
- (10) Exhibits at the County Fair.

c. Results

- (1) Utility Companies gave four demonstrations to the 4-H Club.
- (2) We had 17 4-H Club members completing this project.
- (3) The Assistant County Agent and the Home Agent gave four demonstrations to the club members in this project.
- (4) We had one tour to Buggs' Island Dam with 22 club members attending.
- (5) All available material on this project was put into the hands of the 4-H Club members.
- (6) The 4-H Club members put on two educational exhibits at the County Fair, one on good lighting and one on electrifying sewing machines and making a portable motor.

3. Clothing - So You Would Like To Sew

a. Objectives

- (1) To create an interest in the importance of learning to sew.
- (2) To help each girl equip a sewing box.
- (3) To teach each girl simple stitches and correct interpretation of patterns.
- (4) To stimulate creative ability in Club members.

b. Methods

- (1) Seven method demonstrations at each of six clubs.
- (2) Bulletins given to club members on each phase of the project.
- (3) Each girl to model or exhibit at least one article in the county contest.
- (4) Each girl to put on an exhibit at the County Fair.

c. Results

- (1) Seven method demonstrations were given in each of six clubs.
- (2) Each girl was given all the available material on this project.
- (3) All the girls taking this project put on an educational exhibit at the Fair.
- (4) Ninety-four girls were enrolled in this project and 83 completed and turned in record books.

4. Room Improvement

a. Objectives

- (1) To stimulate interest in some of the older 4-H Club members in carrying through to completion this project.
- (2) To have them learn methods and skills in house furnishings and care of the home, an appreciation of having a room of their own to express their own personality.

b. Methods

- (1) Individual guidance by Agent and parents.

- 19 -

- (2) Holding demonstration in some interested girl's room.
- (3) Have girls invite other people to see their rooms.
- (4) Contest to give recognition to Club members.

c. Results

- (1) Only two girls enrolled in this project and two completed, although they did not turn in records, the work was done
- (2) We hope to encourage more interest in this project another year.

5. Food Preservation - Canning and Freezing

a. Objectives

- (1) To give club members an opportunity to take part in these two projects to be carried principally in the summer months.
- (2) To teach approved methods of canning and freezing.

b. Methods

- (1) To give method demonstrations in small groups .
- (2) Each girl participating in this project to show someone else how.
- (3) Get available information into the hands of the girls.
- (4) Have an exhibit at the County Fair.

c. Results

- (1) Eleven girls carried this project with three completing.
- (2) Each girl had taught someone else what she had done.
- (3) 4-H Club members put on an educational exhibit at the Fair.

C. Young Men and Women's Work

s. Objectives

- (1) To try to organize one county-wide men and women's group.

(2) To reach more young women with individual problems.

b. Methods

- (1) Find suitable meeting place.
- (2) Survey of the young people in the county.
- (3) Develop leadership.
- (4) Promote better youth programs educationally and recreationally inspiring better home living.
- (5) Work with individual homemakers through office calls, letters home visits, and material sent out from the State office.

c. Results

- (1) Made a survey of the young people, but so far have been unable to interest them into getting into an organized group.
- (2) Many of this group work outside the home, and many of the young homemakers are enrolled in home demonstration clubs and feel that time does not permit belonging to two groups.
- (3) Work has been done with individual homemakers through office calls, letters, home visits and circular material.

IV OTHER ACTIVITIES

A. Adult

1. Federation Goal - "Home and Community Beautification" was planned to have improvement done not only by Home Demonstration Groups, but by other agencies as highway department, county agriculture committee, Board of Supervisors, P.T.A. - planned and sponsored by Home Demonstration Clubs.

a. Objectives

- (1) Establishing County dumps.
- (2) Naming and identifying farms and homes.
- (3) Identifying county roads.
- (4) Roadside weed cutting.
- (5) County-wide plant exchange.
- (6) The outstanding objective is to bring the citizens of Amelia County to a realization of their responsibility in helping to make their communities attractive by making improvements county-wide.

b. Method

- (1) The County Federation Goal Committee composed of the County Goal Chairman and the individual club chairmen to approach the county highway department and the agriculture board on ways and means of beautifying our county.
- (2) This committee to work with each farm family and to be responsible for weed cutting along the roadside, of their individual property.
- (3) To work with Board of Supervisors on approving the clean-up of unsightly dumps and prohibiting roadside dump heaps by providing county dumps.
- (4) County Chairman of Home Beautification to head up the plant exchange whereby all women may give to her information on plants and flowers they have to give and those they need to finish their planting.
- (5) Put on a drive to improve mail boxes and entrances to homes.

(6) The Home Agent, through Extension bulletins, home visits, circular letters and radio will give publicity and help to tie the communities together making this goal county-wide. The Agent will furnish any timely information to club members and committees on yard beautification.

c. Results

- (1) One County dump was established.
- (2) Aided three families to improve entrances and named farms.
- (3) Committees are working on the original names of county roads and we hope to complete this phase of the work in 1954.
- (4) Roadside weed cutting was done by more than half of the homes.
- (5) One community plant exchange and one county-wide plant exchange was held.

2. National Home Demonstration Week

- a. One radio talk was given.
- b. The Home Agent sent a letter to all Home Demonstration Club women hoping to strengthen Home Demonstration work through having club women have a clearer understanding and a wider vision of what home demonstration club work really is, and what a tremendous organization they belong to.
- c. We set our goal at 50 women to attend the District meeting and we had 65 women to attend. The narrator for the pageant on "The Past Fifty Years in Home Demonstration Club Work" was from Amelia County.

3. Institute of Rural Affairs and State Federation

- a. 100% of Home Demonstration Clubs paid State Federation dues.
- b. County Chairman attended State Federation meeting.
- c. Six Home Demonstration Club women and Agent attended the Institute of Rural Affairs. These delegates gave reports back in their county on the activities of this meeting.

4. Achievement Program

The Amelia County Home Demonstration Committee decided at their Spring program planning meeting to put all their efforts behind our County Fair, including in this Fair their achievements of the year. Highlights of the Fair will be explained in another paragraph.

5. County Fair

The Home Demonstration Club Women and the Home Agent who are members of the Amelia Livestock Improvement Association met with this organization concerning the possibilities of building a building for home exhibits on the Fair Grounds. This possibility was discussed pro and con and the final voting approved such a building. This building was completed the day before the Fair was to begin. The Home Demonstration Club Women started making their plans in April for the Fair to be held in October. Each club put on an educational exhibit on one subject that had been studied in Home Demonstration Club work within the past two years. It was a wonderful Fair which portrayed the achievements and abilities of a group of women working together for county unity. It was an achievement in many ways.

6. Work in Unorganized Communities

No new clubs have been organized, in fact, two clubs have been consolidated due to the fact that so many of the women in one of the clubs have become engaged in outside work. Unorganized groups have been worked with and through personal contact and letters we have gained 40 new club women within the past year.

7. County Drives

All clubs participate in county drives whenever advisable.

B. 4-H Clubs

1. Camp and Short Course

a. Objectives

- (1) To give 4-H boys and girls new experience that will provide recreation, help develop leadership, and the ability to adjust to new conditions.
- (2) Encourage better club work.
- (3) Encourage project completion.
- (4) To have all 4-H Clubs represented at 4-H Camp with at least 50 attending from the county.
- (5) To have club members attending 4-H Camp and Shortcourse to report back to their clubs on activities.
- (6) To have our allotted number to attend State Shortcourse.

b. Method

- (1) To allow only the 4-H Club members who have completed their projects the previous year to attend Camp.
- (2) Have a radio talk and a newsletter about Camp and Shortcourse.
- (3) Have Home Demonstration Club to sponsor some deserving 4-H Club member to Camp or Shortcourse who otherwise could not go.

c. Results

- (1) All 4-H Club members received information concerning Camp and Shortcourse.
- (2) Thirty-five 4-H Club members attended Camp at Camp Farrar.
- (3) All of these 4-H members had turned in completed project books.
- (4) Two boys and two girls, our allotted number, attended the State 4-H Shortcourse.
- (5) One boy and one girl were taken into the All Star chapter.
- (6) The Home Agent was asked to teach a class at the State Shortcourse on "Top-notch 4-H Clubs". A great deal of time and effort went into preparation for this job. More than a hundred boys and girls enrolled in this class and I believe the Agent learned as much as the boys and girls. A great deal of illustrative material was used in teaching this class. The Agent used as her theme the trunk of a tree and in colors the notches were shown, each notch representing a major step in reaching the top. Outlines were given to the boys and girls so that they might use this information at home if they thought it worthwhile. All of this information was turned into the State 4-H Club Department for future reference if needed.

2. National 4-H Club Week

a. Objectives

- (1) To give publicity to 4-H Club work in Amelia County
- (2) To give recognition to 4-H members by giving them and opportunity to participate in special club events.

b. Methods

b. Methods

- (1) Bulletin Board exhibits
- (2) Newsletters to parents and 4-H Club members.
- ((3) Radio Programs. .
- (4) Individual club programs.

c. Results

- (1) One newsletter was mailed to all 4-H Club members and their parents.
- (2) A bulletin board exhibit was placed in every school.
- (3) One radio talk was given.
- (4) Each 4-H Club had an individual program.

3. County Fair

At one of the 4-H County Council meetings, the 4-H Committee decided to have their Achievement Day in cooperation with the Fair. These 4-H Club boys and girls put on 4 educational exhibits on their accomplishments and achievements of the year. Many of the boys and girls entered open exhibits also.

4. County Council

We have had an active 4-H County Council in Amelia County for the past year. Three meetings have been held. The membership is made up of all officers of all 4-H Clubs in the County. The officers of the County Council are elected by the group.

5. Contests

a. Objective

- (1) To stimulate more interest in good quality club work and to recognize members who are doing a good job.

- (2) Have club members participate in county and district contests in all of the homemaking projects they are carrying.
- (3) Use contest to evaluate 4-H Club work and to give recognition to outstanding Club girls, and to develop skill and poise.

b. Method

- (1) To hold club contests for all members.
- (2) To have contest winners in the county to compete in the district contest.

c. Results

- (1) The County Contest winners will compete in the District contest.
- (2) A great deal of skill and poise is developed by participating in these contests.

6. Rural Life Sunday

a. Objectives

- (1) To encourage each of the clubs to work with their minister in taking part in a special program on rural life Sunday that will give recognition to 4-H Club work.
- (2) To provide new experiences for 4-H Club members and to encourage more participation and interest in religious work.

b. Method

- (1) Help club leaders and ministers plan Rural Life Sunday programs.

c. Results

- (1) Nearly all the churches in the county had a Rural Life Sunday program put on by the 4-H Club members. Many of the churches combined for this service. It was a worthwhile service much enjoyed by the 4-H Club members and their parents. Some of the churches gave the collection to the 4-H Clubs.

7. Monthly Programs

a. Objectives

- (1) To provide a well-rounded club program by using a 10 to 15 minute program for both boys and girls and to give each club member an opportunity to be on one or more programs during the year.

b. Methods

- (1) Help plan programs for special occasions.
- (2) Have Extension Agents send out suggestions for monthly programs to the Program Chairman and ask Club leaders to work with these Chairmen in getting the job done.

c. Results

- (1) Programs completed as planned by the Council. The Extension Agents sent out suggestions and programs as planned by Vice President and Club leaders.

C. Young Men and Women's Activities

There are no Extension sponsored groups of young men and women in Amelia County. A survey made of age groups in the Home Demonstration Clubs showed that 15% of Home Demonstration Club members come within the 18-30 age group in the county. A great deal of effort is being made

to reach more young people through an Extension Program. We hope to be able to organize at least one county-wide group if we think advisable. We had two Amelia County representatives at the Older Youth Camp and one at the Institute of Rural Affairs.

V SCOPE OF WORK

A. Organization

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
No. HD Clubs or Groups	13	14	14	13	12
Membership	251	257	261	263	290
No. 4-H Clubs	10	9	10	9	7
Membership	104	132	151	127	110 (girls)
No. YMW Groups	0	0	0	0	0
Membership	0	0	0	0	0
No. Other Families Reached	290	315	350	375	400
No. of Different Families Reached	1100	1100	1100	1100	1140
No. Community Clubs					
Membership					

Note: The reason for a drop in the number of 4-H Clubs and HD Clubs is due to consolidation of several clubs in order to do more effective work

VI FUNCTIONS OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS USED IN THE 1953 PROGRAM

A. County Board of Agriculture

This is a group of agricultural and home demonstration committees planning together the Amelia County Fair and other similar activities.

B. County Home Demonstration Committee

The Amelia County Home Demonstration Committee is composed of the presidents of each club, five charter members and three key women in the county. This committee plans all programs and special activities. The Amelia County Home Demonstration Committee has two meetings during the year;

- a. Spring Meeting - To review program to date, giving information and training program development leaders for year's work.
Appoint committees and plan special events that are to come the latter part of the year. This committee also plans to secure more members who will assume additional responsibilities of leadership.
 - b. Fall Planning Meeting - To report accomplishments of the Extension program for the year; and plan and make program calendar for 1954, also goals, representative of the reports brought in from Chairmen from their local clubs
 - c. Sponsors 4-H Club Work -
 - d. Pays Expenditures of Home Demonstration Work in Amelia County.
 - e. Responsible for Securing Delegates from Amelia County to Attend District and State Meetings of Virginia Federation Home Demonstration Clubs
 - f. Prepare and Finance 1954 Year Book
 - g. Cooperate with P.T.A., Health Department and all other organizations to further health, education, welfare and social and religious work in Amelia County
- C. County 4-H Project planning committee
- a. This committee met before July 1st for the purpose of planning the 4-H homemaking projects for 1954.
 - b. The Home Agent and Adult leaders make a 4-H project calendar for the county and each club.
- D. County 4-H Council
- The Amelia 4-H County Council held three meetings during 1953. The club officers and committees composed the Amelia 4-H Council with the leaders and agents acting in an advisory capacity.

The first meeting was planned to give recognition for outstanding work. The summer work was planned also. We followed through on objectives set up for the year. In the fall meeting the 1954 program was planned. Some of the duties of this council are:

- a. Hold four meetings during the year
- b. Train leaders
- c. Provide parliamentary training for leaders and officers.
- d. Plan monthly club programs and special events
- e. Try to send representatives to all District and State Club events.
- f. Stress better project work and more completions.

E. County 4-H Honor Clubs

F. County Chapter of 4-H All Stars

We have thirty-two all stars in Amelia County, but they are not organized into a Chapter.

G. Other such as County Mobilization Committee, Professional Workers Council or Civic Organizations.

The Home Agent attends meetings of these committees and cooperates in any way possible.

VII LEADERSHIP

The volunteer leaders have done an excellent job in helping to carry the work to the different communities in Amelia County during the past year. We feel that we have done an excellent job in developing our program.

A. Home Demonstration Club Project Leadership

HD Club Project Leadership	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
No. project leaders (subject matter)	52	56	86	84	84
No. goal chairmen	14	14	14	14	14
No. training meetings held by Specialist	4	3	4	2	2
by Agent	10	19	20	20	15
Attendance at all training meetings	159	170	167	175	182
No. club meetings held by leaders without Agent present	43	78	98	56	52
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	43	78	98	56	42

B. Growth of 4-H Club Project Leadership

No. adult project leaders	16	16	16	16	22
No. junior project leaders	2	7	13	13	15
No. training meetings held by Specialist	2	1	0	2	0
by Agent	5	17	14	3	4
Attendance at leader training meeting	44	69	48	27	30
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	67	5	9	10	5
No. club meetings held by leader without agent present	32	21	27	20	1
No. of additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	0	0	0	0	4
No. demonstrations given by leaders by adults	65	67	75	60	65
by juniors	11	42	20	25	35

C. Use of Leaders in 1953 - Adults

- a. Organization leaders - used to promote better business and plan club meetings. To take information to their club members. To assist with exhibits and special interest groups. To make home visits in order to increase membership and attendance at meetings. To strengthen the county program by having their clubs visit other clubs. Means of distributing materials that Agent needs to get into the hands of club members. Agent will train leaders individually through home visits, circular letters, current information, and special material sent from the state office.

- b. Program Development Leaders - to lead discussions, and give to them outlook information at spring planning meetings, have program development leaders lead discussions in their own clubs on desires and needs. Making contacts with non-club members finding out their needs and desires for better family living. Use the program development chairman to contact leaders who are to do special interest demonstrations when needed. Collect and compile individual accomplishment sheets.
- c. Project Leaders - Were given three demonstrations by specialists and Agent, also several training conferences by the Agent. These project leaders took care of four demonstrations during the year in each of their clubs. They helped to take information to non-club members. They assist at leader training meetings.

D. Use of Leaders in 1953 - 4-H

- a. Officers of 4-H Clubs trained at County Council meeting in parliamentary procedure. Individual training given by Agent and adult leaders. Use them to conduct meetings and take information to others. Use them for directing recreation and planning local club programs.
- b. 4-H Project Leaders - Trained them through training meetings and individually. Send them current information on 4-H Club program. Used them to give demonstrations at 4-H Club. Made home visits. Served as chaperones for special events as Camp, Tours, to help with exhibits and contest and scoring records.

VIII WORK IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

- A. Welfare Department - Home Demonstration Clubs cooperated in helping
B with needy families in the county.
- B. Virginia Electric Cooperative - Cooperated with the h-H electrification
project and the county Fair.
- C. Radio - Home Agent did broadcasts as scheduled.
- D. Home Economics Teacher - Worked with this teacher on county water
systems, Fair, and training on special problems.
- E. County Health Unit - Cooperated with the Health Department in first-aid
and in setting up a home nursing course on "Home Care of the Sick".
Ten Home Demonstration Club women received certificates in this course.
- F. Amelia County Schools - All of the h-H Clubs are held in the schools
during school time and we have gotten excellent cooperation from
school officials. The Home Demonstration Clubs work very closely
with the schools on any of the drives.

IX APPRAISAL OF THE YEAR'S WORK

In 1953 the Home Demonstration work in Amelia County has contributed to better family living, to better homemaking, and to improve attitudes of the people by realizing at the beginning of the year the needs and desires of these people. Information and demonstrations have been made available to them on improved housing, better home management, as wise use of time, labor saving equipment, money management and business affairs. A great deal of emphasis has been placed on home and community recreation and county unity. For the third consecutive year home management has been given major emphasis in our program, and it is paying off big dividends.

Our 1953 program has contributed a great deal toward developing and using the skills and leadership of Amelia County women and girls.

We have striven to give every 4-H and Home Demonstration Club member and opportunity to express herself and follow through on needs and desires. The quality of the work has definitely improved both from the standpoint of conducting the meetings and information given out. It is easy to ride through the county and enter the homes and tell that we have been busy. The people are eager to learn and to continue to progress in their way of living. The requests are becoming more and more practical with needs taking the lead.

This has been the most outstanding and practical year's work that I have experienced in my almost ten years of service. It has reflected growth, unity, and a greater understanding of a real extension program in the county.

We are proud of what we have accomplished, but we have not lost sight of the fact that there is still a big job to do.