

ANNUAL REPORT

County Extension Work

1953



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HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK
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III. County Situation As It Affected The 1953 Program

The chief sources of income are farming and forest products such as lumbering and excelsior. There are 1235 farms in the county consisting of 340,160 acres of land. 161,672 acres are farming land. The soil is a light sandy loam and easily to cultivate. The average farm consist of 127.4 acres. There are 764 white farm operators and 508 non-farm white operators. The farm population is 5,665 of which 55% of the population is colored.

A non-profit Electric Cooperative has been formed and is serving about 500 homes. ~~The county~~ 2350 people reported radios and two hundred and ten reported telephones.

The county is well represented with churches of different denominations.

Caroline County's health unit was established in the county in the early forties. The unit consist of one county nurse, sanitation officer, secretary, and a visiting doctor. County clinics are held for contagious, infectious diseases, etc.

IV. Contributions of the 1953 Program to Better Living

Adults have been encourage to think more upon their physical, social and economical problems which effects their everyday life. The rural people are becoming more conscious of long time planning and more long time planning is being done.

The county people are becoming more aware of the extension program and feel more free to consult the home agent for advice. In 1953 the office and telephone calls requesting service were a slight increase in number.

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Remodeling of housing seems to be at a stand still in most of the communities in the county. Three baths were added to old homes in 1953, while in 1952 two baths were added. In 1952 five new homes were built by club members while one new home was built in 1953.

The club members are becoming more conscious of better planned diets and are requesting information on meal planning and food preparation.

The women are more conscious of the high prices and are repairing their old furniture. In 1953 fifteen pieces of furniture were re-upholstered. While in 1952 seventy-five pieces of furniture were re-upholstered. In 1953 forty-two chairs were re-seated.

The county people are requesting more helpful suggestions in their program and are eliminating unuseful crafts.

The home agent has assisted more families with their individual problems in house furnishings than the previous years.

V. ADULT

A. Project Work

1. Food and Nutrition

Farm families wanted to use the foods they had produced on the farm but they wanted better planned, more attractive, and wholesome diets. All homemakers wanted to know the different foods which can be prepared to save time and energy for meal.

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The following food demonstrations were selected: Simple Refreshments, and Refrigerator Desserts.

The agent gave the demonstration on Simple Refreshments. The agent prepared and served two simple kinds of cookies and a beverage. Emphasis was put on the importance of advance planning. Leaflets with recipes for Simple Refreshments were distributed at all club meetings.

Demonstrations on Refrigerator Desserts were given in all the clubs. The agent prepared and served a variety of refrigerator desserts with emphasis on the importance of advance planning and preparation. The agent stressed proper care to retain the attractiveness of desserts.

2. Clothing

Club members wanted to improve the appearance of wearing apparels and also save money in choosing becoming dresses.

The agent gave the demonstration on selection of various types of patterns, materials to use and other factors that have to be considered in choosing the becoming dress. Emphasis was also put on the various type of neck line, material, designs and fabrics.

3. Home Management

The agent tested eight pressure cookers. Many of the cookers needed a new gage, valves or gasket to give satisfactory results and prevent accidents.

The leaders were trained at the county training meeting by the State Entomologist Specialist for the Control of Household Pest.

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The leaders gave the demonstration in eleven clubs with emphasis on the following:

1. How to control household pest.
2. What the household pest look like.
3. Their feeding habits.
4. How they develop.
5. Harmful effects.
6. Methods of control
7. Precautions.

4. House Furnishings

Club members wanted more attractive, colorful and liveable homes since they spent much of their time in the home. The homemaker requested help in Selection and Framing of Pictures, and Slipcover Clinic.

Homemakers were beginning to redecorate and make their homes more liveable. Club members wished to refinish and renew their old pictures to harmonize with their furnishings. Now the materials are more plentiful more changes are being made in the home. The agent worked with the members in cleaning, repainting and refinishing frames. New prints, such as goday, birds and flowers, were purchased and replaced for faded pictures.

Emphasis was also put on the following points:

1. Points to remember in selecting wall decorations.
2. Frames for your pictures.
3. Hanging pictures.
4. Judge your picture selection and arrangement.
5. Purpose and the cutting of picture mats.

Re-Upholstery was included in the year's program, so members would be encouraged to use furniture they could remodel rather than compete with rising furniture prices. Furniture clinic was held for two days in one club. The women came to one central location, bringing furniture to work on and lunch. The clinic was most successful. The women were taught tying of springs, padding furniture, cutting and fitting of upholstery materials. According to figures in the home agent's report, 6 pieces of furniture were put back into use as result of the re-upholstery clinic.

Slip cover clinic was included in the year's program, so members would be encouraged to use slip covers to protect their furniture and have more attractive homes.

A three day leader training meeting was given by the agent for two house furnishing leaders from each club. The leaders gave the demonstration at the clubs. Six slip covers were made at the training meeting. The clinic was most successful.

6. Rural Arts

The club members requested some handicraft which they might do during their leisure hours. Two craft leaders from each of the eleven clubs in the county gave the demonstration, on Basket Making. The leaders were trained at the county leader training meeting by the State Rural Art Specialist. Members reported making one hundred and seventy-five bread, fireside, and flower baskets.

7. Others

Garden leaders in each club gave timely reports each month from leader material planned by the Garden Specialist at VPI. Club

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members were asked to pass this information to neighbors and friends who were unable to attend the club meetings.

Poultry leaders in each club gave timely reports each month from leader material planned by the poultry specialist at VPI. Emphasis was put on symptoms and treatment of the different poultry diseases.

A water system committee has been organized. The committee has met three times. Circular letters have been sent to families that do not have running water in the home or on the farm. Two county-wide demonstrations are being planned and the families have been selected.

B. Other Activities

1. Outstanding Family

Mrs. Herbert Tate has been the most outstanding family in the county this year. Her living room and hall were completely re-decorated; walls papered, and wood work was painted white. They also sanded two bedroom floors, the hall and stair steps.

Several beautiful pictures which had been stored in the attic were cleaned and used in redecorating the living room. They have also purchased material to reseat the porch rockers.

Aside from making the home more liveable, the Tate's raised vegetables for the home freezer.

2. Outstanding Club

Frog Level Home Demonstration Club has done the most outstanding work in the county during the year. With a membership of twenty-one, the members are active. The club officers and leaders work closely together in preparing the club meetings which are held generally in the local homes. Reports showed good work for each member.

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Well planned meetings added interest and value to the clubs. This was a result of the president's work. She conducts the meeting in an excellent manner.

The club has worked on the same demonstrations as the other clubs this year. Two special interest meetings, one on reseating chairs and one on stenciling of furniture were held in the club. The club had 100% attendance at all training meetings.

4. Federation Goal Activities

The federation goal committee meeting was held in October and set-up activities for the clubs and ways of carrying out the federation goal planned for the county. A suggestion program was outlined by the state federation chairman and this was followed in making plans for the club meetings.

The following objectives were set-up:

1. Name county officers, duties, length of office and etc.
2. Discussion on registering.
3. Discussion on primary election.
4. Discussion on how and when to vote.
5. Discussion on tax.
6. Duties of a good citizen.

At the club meeting the federation leader gave a report on Citizenship. The agent gave talk on the county officers, duties, length of office, etc.

5. County Objective

The following objectives were made for the county:

1. Each club send a delegate to the District Meeting.

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2. Each club have 100% attendance at all leader training meetings.
 3. Each club increase the attendance 85% for all meetings.
 4. Organize one new club.
 5. Each club send a delegate to the Federation Meeting.
 6. Have one program on Civilian Defense Program.

Seven clubs sent a delegate to the District meeting. Nine clubs had 100% attendance at the leader training meetings. Two clubs sent a delegate to the Federation meeting.

6. Result Demonstration

Two homemakers serving as result demonstrators on yard improvement. One homemaker is serving as result demonstrator on housing. The three demonstrators are continuing from last year and will work over a period of years.

The agent has gone over their plans with them for continuing the work. The Extension Horticulturist and Housing Specialist have worked with the demonstrators.

7. Flower Show

Port Royal Home Demonstration Club sponsored their Annual Flower Show in May. Members of the club and others in the village entered a total of forty-seven flower arrangements in the miniature, tall, wild flower arrangements, etc. Ribbons were awarded in the different classes.

8. Institute of Rural Affairs

Four homemakers attended the Institute of Rural Affairs in

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in Blacksburg. The county delegate represented the county at the Institute of Rural Affairs and will give the report of the Institute at the county planning meeting.

9. National Home Demonstration Week and District Federation Meeting

National Home Demonstration Week was observed in all clubs during the month of May. Twenty-seven club members and agent attended the district federation meeting in Spotsylvania County. News articles and radio programs were released for the observance. One club sponsored a flower show and tea inviting the other club members to attend.

VI. 4-H Club Work

A. Project Work

1. Foods and Nutrition

Demonstrations were given by the agent for preparing milk dishes, green and root vegetables, refreshments and cookies. Four girls were enrolled in the project. One girl entered the district contest in the Spring.

2. Clothing

This project has three divisions - So You'd Like To Sew, Make and Re-make Clothes, and Looking Your Best. The first was selected for the young club girls to teach simple cutting and sewing. Eighteen girls enrolled in this project. Three leaders are working with the girls during the summer.

Three girls enrolled in the grooming project. One girl entered the district contest in the Spring and won in the Junior Contest.

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Demonstrations were given on care of hair, teeth, hands, skin, and how to laundry a sweater.

3. Housekeeping

The agent and one leader gave the following demonstrations to the girls at the monthly club meetings: Care of Your Room, How to Lengthen Sheets, Furniture Arrangement, Table Setting, Picture Hanging, Dish Washing. Sixty-eight girls enrolled in this project.

One girl was enrolled in the house furnishings project. The agent has worked individually with the girl with the project.

4. Others

Laundry

Two girls enrolled in the family project have improvised a number of pieces of laundering equipment. The agent gave the following demonstration: Sprinkling Clothes, Ironing a Shirt, Making a Ironing Board Cover, and Clothes pin bag.

Rural Electrification

Nineteen girls were enrolled in the Farm and Home Electric project and twelve completed. The VEC engineer met with the agents and discussed the program outlined for the study. Monthly demonstrations were held for the nineteen girls.

Some of the classes taught were: Better Use of Electricity, Home Lighting, Care of Electric Equipment, Simple Wiring, and Use of Equipment.

Evelyn Ayers, the County winner, will attend the Rural Electrification Congress to be held in Richmond. She will also compete for the District Contest.

B. Other Activities

1. Jamestown Camp

Five girls from the county attended Jamestown 4-H

Camp held August 10-15.

2. State 4-H Short Course

One girl represented Caroline County as delegate to the State 4-H Short Course in Blacksburg in June. Members are selected by agent on basis of leadership and good club work over a period of years.

Classes were taught in judging, group singing, recreation, demonstration, etc. The girl excelled in recreation. The girl has taken more interest in club work since she attended the Short Course. She plans to offer suggestions for different activities at the council meeting.

3. County 4-H Contest

County Home Demonstration club members were asked to help with 4-H club work during the summer months, during which time the five clubs were broken down into smaller groups. Eight adults were secured to assist with the neighborhood groups. These leaders were responsible for the summer project work.

In the summer the home agent gave individual instruction to adult leaders who were to assist her with her summer club projects. A county contest is scheduled for fall.

VIII. Scope of Work

	1950	1951	1952	1953
No. HD Clubs or Groups	10	12	12	11
Membership	224	230	250	255
No. L-M Clubs	5	5	5	5
Membership	126	129	114	111
No. YMW Groups				
Membership				
No. of other families reached	65	75	75	85
No. of different families reached	250	375	375	385
No. community clubs				
Membership				

IX. Organizations Functioned in the 1953 Program

A. County Board of Agriculture

The agent attended all meetings of the Agricultural Board during the year and participated in all programs sponsored by the board.

In the summer the Board met to help make plans for two water system demonstrations.

B. County Home Demonstration Committee

This committee is composed of twenty members who are presidents of the home demonstration clubs, federation goal chairman, and county officers. The organization meets twice a year and plans activities of the home demonstration club for the year. The committee meets each fall to plan the year's program and club demonstrations.

The club presidents will give reports and suggestions for the individual club for planning the year's program.

The Spring committee meeting is held to make a check on the work being done and completed plans for other work such as Institute of Rural Affairs and Annual Home Demonstration Sale. Also for the Achievement Day.

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C. County L-H Project Planning Committee

This committee is composed of eighteen members who are club presidents, adult leaders, and junior leaders, from the five clubs in the county. This committee meets in the fall and plans the years program. The club president gives reports and suggestions for the individual clubs which helped in planning the years program.

D. County L-H Council

This organization is composed of the club officers, president, Vice-president, secretary, treasurer and reporter from five L-H clubs in the county. The farm and home agent serve as advisors for the organization. Two meetings are usually held each year, one in the fall after new officers are elected and one in the spring.

The morning program is devoted to summarizing the past work, the awarding of county medals to the outstanding club members. Also, the group discussed the new goals for the coming year and the business. Training of officers in their new duties and recreation constitutes the afternoon program. Club presidents give a report of the council meeting in their respective club at the next regular club meeting following the council meeting. The following goals were set-up:

1. Each club have at least one boy and girl to attend Camp.
2. Each club have 95% completion of projects.

- 3. A boy and girl train other members to fill out record books and give record books to secretary.
- 4. Each club member observe rural life Sunday.
- 5. Each club member contribute something to the Fredericksburg Agricultural Fair.
- 6. Each club have a picnic in the Spring.
- 7. County Council Award a pennant to the most outstanding club.
- 8. Publish news articles in the county paper of outstanding work.

X. Leadership

A. Activities of Adult and Junior Leaders

Each home demonstration club was organized with the following officers serving a term of two years: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Reporter. The president attend all meetings and appoints all project leaders, and committees.

She also represents her club on the home demonstration committee. The Vice-President serves in the absence of the president. The secretary secures meeting places for the club and keeps a record of meetings and club activities. Club finances are handled by the club treasurer. The club reporter makes reports to the local paper on club activities.

The program development leader finds out the needs of her community and records the suggestions made by club members. The program development leader and the club presidents give club suggestions at the fall planning meeting, which helps the committee in planning the years program.

Three leader training meetings were given for the 44 project leaders representing the home demonstration clubs. 23 meetings were held by project leaders in the club without the agent. These leaders were trained by a state specialist or the home agent prior to the club meeting. The leaders not only gave the demonstration in the absence of the home agent, but also were responsible for securing all material necessary for the demonstration.

4-4 clubs are with a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, song leader, and program chairman. These officers are responsible for conducting meetings in school during the year.

Eight adult leaders were secured to help girls with projects. The leaders were asked to help with 4-4 clubs, especially during the summer months when the clubs are broken down into smaller neighborhood groups.

B. Growth of 4-4 club Project Leadership	1950	1951	1952	1953
No. project leaders (subject matter)	4	4	3	2
No. goal chairmen		4	1	1
No. training meetings held by specialist	4	5	5	2
by Agent	50	45	1	1
Attendance at all training meetings	50	45	36	44
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	50	45	36	20
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	40	10	10	15

Growth of L-8 Club Project Leadership	1950	1951	1952	1953
No. adult project leaders	7	8	8	8
No. junior project leaders	2	3	3	2
No. training meetings held by Specialist by Agent	1		1 2	1 7
Attendance at leader training meetings			9	
No. L-8 leaders trained individually	5	8	8	8
No. club meetings held by leader without agent present	9	55	11	
No. of additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	7	15	9	11
No. demonstrations given by leaders by adults	9	10	11	10
by juniors	3	15	6	8

C. Accomplishments of an outstanding leader

Mrs. Annie Taylor, a L-8 leader of C. T. Smith L-8 club has done outstanding work as a leader. Mrs. Taylor has worked with the summer group of girls in the Chilesburg community. The girls were enrolled in the project, So You'll Like To Sew. The project will be completed at the end of the summer.

XI. Work in Cooperation With Other Agencies

1. Cancer Committee

The agent served on the cancer committee and attended all the meetings. She distributed information and leaflets to the county people. Home Demonstration members throughout the county assisted with the Cancer Drive.

2. Infantile Paralysis

The agent served on the infantile paralysis committee and attended all meetings. She also worked with the chairman in

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securing solicitors for the different communities. The Agent distributed leaflets to the county people.

3. T. B. Association

The agent cooperated with the T. B. Association in promoting the X-ray clinic throughout the county.

4. Red Cross

The agent is a member of the disaster committee for the county to serve if there is a need.

XII. Appraisal of the Year's Work

The home demonstration program has encouraged the adults to think upon their physical, social, economical, and the immediate homemaking problems, which affect the individual and community. The homemakers are beginning to realize more and more the importance of long time planning.

Many diets have been improved through the use of home freezers. The homemakers prepare and serve a better variety of food in their diets. The diets are more wholesome and nutritious.

Television has played an important part in keeping members of the family at home more. The club members are becoming more aware of making their homes more comfortable and attractive.

The development of leaders in this county has been a slow process but the agent feels that in certain sections of the county leadership has developed more rapidly than others. The sections where leadership has developed the work will spread more rapidly.

Some of the year's work is intangible and results will be seen as time goes on.