

ANNUAL REPORT

County Extension Work

1953



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Agent

Hansmond

COUNTY

Asst. Agent

VIRGINIA

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

NAUSTRONG COUNTY

Dec. 1, 1952 - May 30, 1953

Agent Lillian E. Livsey

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Agent Opie Jones O'Brien

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page	
I	Cover.....	1
II	Table of Contents.....	2,2a
III	County Situation.....	3
IV	Contribution of the 1953 Program to Better Family Living...	6
V	Adult Work.....	8
	A. Project Work.....	8
	1. Home Management.....	8
	2. Foods and Nutrition.....	10
	3. Clothing.....	12
	4. Housing.....	14
	5. Rural Arts.....	15
	6. Special Interest.....	16
	B. Other Activities.....	18
	1. An Outstanding Club Member.....	18
	2. A Club in Community Projects.....	19
	3. Community Improvement Work.....	19
	4. Federation Goal Activities.....	19
	Newspaper Pictures - Federation Goal.....	20a
	Script - Achievement Program.....	20b
	5. County Club Objectives.....	21
	6. Result Demonstration.....	23
	7. District I Federation Meeting.....	24
	Newsclipping - District I HEG Meeting.....	24a
	8. I. F. Y. E. Delegate.....	24
	9. Institute of Rural Affairs.....	25
	10. County Achievement Day.....	25
	Program - Achievement Day.....	26a
	Newsclippings - Achievement Day.....	26b
	Newsclipping - Achievement Day.....	26c
VI	4-H Club Work.....	26
	A. Project Work.....	26
	1. Foods and Nutrition.....	26
	2. Clothing.....	28
	3. Home Improvement.....	29
	B. Other 4-H Club Activities.....	30
	1. State 4-H Short Course.....	30
	2. 4-H Club District Camp.....	30
	3. 4-H Conservation Camp.....	30
	4. 4-H Club Picnic.....	30
	5. 4-H Club Achievement Day.....	31
	Newsclipping - 4-H Achievement Day.....	32a
	Program - 4-H Achievement Day.....	32b
	6. Club Projects.....	32
	7. Club Girl Wins Trip.....	32
	Newsclipping - Club Girl Wins Trip.....	32c
VII	Young Men and Women's Work.....	32
VIII	Scope of Work.....	33

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page	
IX	Function of Other Organizations.....	33
	A. County Board of Agriculture.....	33
	B. County Home Demonstration Committee.....	34
	C. County 4-H Club Project Planning Committee.....	35
	D. County 4-H Club Council.....	35
	E. County Honor Club.....	35
	F. County Chapter of 4-H All Stars.....	35
	G. Other Committees.....	35
X	Leadership.....	35
	A. Contribution of Volunteer Leaders.....	35
	1. Organizational Leaders.....	35
	2. Program Development.....	36
	3. Subject Matter Leaders.....	37
	B. Growth of H. D. Project Leadership.....	38
	Growth of 4-H Project Leadership.....	38
	C. Outstanding Adult 4-H Club Leader.....	39
XI	Cooperation With Other Agencies.....	40
	A. State Grading and Marketing Service.....	40
	B. Retail Merchants Association.....	40
	C. County Health Department.....	40
	D. Other Health Organizations.....	41
	E. Public Schools.....	41
	F. Cooperation With the Red Cross.....	41
	G. Cooperation With the F. B. Association.....	41
	H. Work With Press and Radio.....	42
	I. Work With Banks.....	42
	J. Farmers Home Administration.....	43
XII	Appraisal of the Year's Work.....	43

III. COUNTY SITUATION AS IT AFFECTED THE 1953 PROGRAM

Hennesson County of four hundred twenty seven and seven tenths (427.7) square miles is located twenty three (23) miles west of Norfolk City on the Virginia-North Carolina border on the edge of the Dismal Swamp.

The county with a population of twenty five thousand two hundred thirty eight (25,238) (according to the 1950 Census) has a white population of only eight thousand seven hundred forty eight (8,748) or twenty eight percent (28%). The total population showed an increase of two thousand four hundred sixty seven (2,467) from 1940 to 1950.

The division of urban, rural non-farm and rural residences is as follows:

Urban	- eighteen and six tenths (18.6)
Rural Non-Farm	- fifty two and six tenths (52.6)
Rural Farm	- twenty eight and eight tenths (28.8)

The above figures tend to show that Hennesson County is becoming more and more a county of rural non-farm and urban workers. Nearby employment offered by the Portsmouth Navy Yard, Newport News Ship Yard and the Cities of Portsmouth, Norfolk and Suffolk, partially account for this. The closeness to military bases is another contributing factor. Each year more people employed in Suffolk establish residences in the county.

This situation enables the agent to extend the county extension

program into many urban and rural non-farm homes, with a greater expansion foreseen for the near future.

Of the fourteen hundred and seventy two (1,472) farms in the county, nine hundred sixty five (965) are white operated, as compared to five hundred and seven (507) negro operated, indicating a high percent of negro rural non-farm and urban population. This section of the population is served by the local negro farm and home agents.

The number of farms has increased from fifteen hundred forty six (1,546) in 1940 to fourteen hundred seventy two (1,472) in 1950, with the size increasing for this same period from forty six and eight tenths (46.8) to one hundred one and nine tenths (101.9) acres.

Of the two thousand six hundred fifty (2,650) white women, twenty one (21) years of age and over, four hundred sixty seven (467) are enrolled in home demonstration clubs, or one sixth (1/6) being directly reached by the Extension Program through organized clubs. However, the number being influenced and receiving assistance is much larger. This figure indicates a need for more clubs, particularly in the thickly populated areas. The residents of the new housing developments located in the Bethlehem, Livesay and Eastover communities are young married women who are not members of home demonstration clubs. This group needs the services of the Extension Program.

The general pattern of family life is about the same among rural farm and rural non-farm groups. Home demonstration club members have a fairly high standard of living, particularly good in respect to diets and labor saving equipment. The many rural churches of all denominations are very active with the majority of home demonstration club members participating in the work.

The Parent-Teachers Associations include many members of home demonstration clubs. Other active organizations in the county include the Womens' Clubs, Garden Clubs and Book Clubs, with some home demonstration club women as members.

The peanut factories in Suffolk offer part-time employment to a rather large number of women during the fall and winter months, including a number of home demonstration club members from the more urban clubs.

The Tri-County Suffolk Health Center offers excellent services to the people of the county. Three fourths (3/4) of these services are received by negroes, according to the Health Center. The services are available to the white population if they care to use them. This health center, the new and very modern Obici Hospital, located in the county a few miles from Suffolk, plus the resident doctors, dentists and superintendent of public welfare adequately care for county health needs other than the tubercular patients, whose percentage is high particularly among the negro race. There is a waiting list to go to the T. B. Sanatoriums, extending from 6 months to a year.

The public health director states there is need for more work on sanitation, particularly on privies and trash disposal.

There are three (3) high schools and three (3) graded schools in the county for white children, with a steadily increasing enrollment making for a crowded condition in the lower grades.

4-H Club work is being conducted in all six (6) schools but crowded class rooms leave no meeting places except auditoriums which are not very desirable. The enthusiasm and interest of the 4-H Club members counteracts in part for the poor facilities.

Nansemond County has a good road system with a number of U. S. and State Highways running through it. All points of the county are easily accessible and most roads lead to Suffolk, the largest town. Suffolk, with a population of twelve thousand two hundred eighty seven (12,287) is the shopping center for not only Nansemond County, but parts of Isle of Wight, Southampton (Virginia) and Gates County, North Carolina.

IV. CONTRIBUTION OF THE 1953 PROGRAM TO BETTER FAMILY LIVING

Four hundred and sixty seven (467) home demonstration club members enrolled in sixteen (16) clubs included the study of Clothing, Foods, Time Management for Housework, Housing and Art in Daily Living in their 1953 program.

After studying the individual club members reports of their accomplishments, observing the club demonstrations during five (5)

months in the county, and listening to club members comments, it is the opinion of the agent that the greatest contributions to better living were derived in the Time Management for Housework and Foods phases of the program and the County Federation Goal - Art in Daily Living.

One of the objectives of the home demonstration program is to teach women a better way of doing their daily housekeeping tasks, to save themselves both time and work, and changing the job from one of menial tasks to becoming a part of real homemaking of interest to all family members.

Any family that enjoys working together within the home will have a greater desire to contribute to better family relationship and community work because of this experience of sharing in homemaking and working together as a team. Cooperative management of housework allows the homemaker more time with her family and time for civic work and recreation, making for a happier and better adjusted individual to guide her family and serve her community and church.

Each club spent three (3) months studying "Time Management for Housework" directed toward proper placement of equipment, selection of good equipment and accessories, planning ahead and enlisting the cooperation of family members.

Two hundred and forty three (243) members reported that by following recommendations given they had lightened their job of housekeeping and as a result had interested family members in

taking part and all were enjoying working together.

Foods has been another contribution to better family living during the year. The demonstration "Foods After Forty" was interesting to most club members, as the average age of club women is over forty (40) years, and there is much obesity. One hundred and thirty seven (137) club members reported they were using food and nutrition ideas received from these demonstrations. Members also reported that "Food After Forty" ideas were passed on to one hundred seventeen (117) other families.

Each club had one (1) meeting each on "Personal Grooming" and "Restyling Hats". Both subjects further emphasized the long-time goal of Health by contributing to the poise, attractiveness and improved mental outlook of members.

There was much interest in the Federation Goal of "Art in Daily Living, resulting in deeper appreciation of art, nature and music as reflected in individual scrapbooks kept by members.

Another project undertaken by the clubs that contributed to community improvement was the landscaping of the new Tri-County Suffolk Health Center.

V. ADULT WORK

A. Project Work

1. Home Management

Demonstrations in home management were directed towards:

- (a) "Time Management for Housework", (b) "Time Management in Being a Good Hostess", and (c) "Selecting Kitchen Utensils" or "Pots and Pans For Your Kitchen", given to all clubs during May, October and November.

The objectives of these demonstrations were:

- (1) To develop an interest in better time management of housework and allow more leisure for personal development and recreation.
- (2) To help homemakers to eliminate extra steps in housework by more careful planning of their work and placing equipment.

The club leaders were trained in "Time Management for Housework in May by the agent. Leaders gave these demonstrations to clubs in June.

Leaders for "Time Management in Being a Good Hostess" and "Selecting Kitchen Utensils" were trained by the associate food and nutrition specialist in July. Leaders not present received their training by attending a near-by club demonstration prior to their own club meetings.

Demonstrations were given by leaders in all clubs during October and November.

Two hundred and twelve (212) members reported making improvements in ways of doing their housework to save both time and labor, including equipment in their kitchen and in the purchase

of good kitchen utensils and cutlery. Ninety three (93) other families received some of this information from club members.

2. Foods and Nutrition

When the program development leaders discussed program planning, foods was one (1) of their problems and a major interest.

Two (2) months, March and April, were devoted to work on foods and nutrition. The demonstrations dealt with the study of (a) Cold Plates for Summer Meals, and (b) Food After Forty.

The objectives of these demonstrations were:

- • (a) To teach the preparation and planning of economical family meals.
- (b) To serve appetizing and nutritious summer meals.
- • (c) To develop skills and teach new methods in food preparation.
- (d) To teach economy of effort and time in food preparation.
- (e) To teach food requirements of older people and how to meet them by cutting down on fattening foods.

• The food and nutrition specialist trained the agent and the foods leaders in January. They were trained in the morning in the preparation of Congealed Salads and Desserts for Summer use, and in the afternoon on the

correct preparation of food for those who have passed forty (40) years.

The agent used the radio and the newspapers and a personal letter to each leader and club president to encourage them to attend the training meeting.

The leaders were well trained and familiar with the methods of preparation. Leaders from three (3) clubs, who did not attend the training meeting were supplied the information by mail, due to the illness of the agent in March and April.

The leaders were responsible for the eighteen (18) demonstrations given in March, as the agent gave no demonstrations. The leaders gave seventeen (17) demonstrations in April, and the agent gave one (1).

The record of food preservation as compared with five (5) previous years is shown in the table below:

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Quarts Food canned	28,258	20,164	31,075	31,992	26,140	19,608*
Pounds Food frozen	10,208	23,629	43,407	58,347	80,708	72,696*

*Figures reported from sixteen (16) home demonstration clubs as compared with twenty (20) shown in 1952.

The figure for canning constantly decreases due to the increasing number of home freezers and the larger services of

the commercial freezing plant.

The record of progress in securing home freezers to give a greater variety in the farm family menu is shown in the table below:

	1951	1952	1953*
Number homes with freezers	93	146	113
No. using community Freezers	62	90	37

*1953 figures reported by sixteen (16) clubs, as compared with twenty (20) shown in 1952.

3. Clothing

The desire to make an attractive appearance and appear well dressed influenced the program planning committee to include two (2) months of study on (a) Personal Grooming and (b) Styling Hats.

The objectives of these demonstrations were:

- (a) To develop a consciousness of the importance of
 - developing a system of personal care and making the most of what we have through application of the rules of good health, posture and good toilet methods.
- (b) To attain the well dressed look.

Personal Grooming

The agent secured information by mail from the clothing specialist and trained club leaders in April.

The purpose of the demonstration was to teach the importance of pleasing personal appearance and how to achieve a pleasing

personal appearance. The demonstration included skin care, and make up, posture, care of the hair, hands, teeth, and the importance of a neat, clean, and well-kept wardrobe. Demonstrations were given five (5) clubs by the agent and the remainder were given by leaders. Some clubs invited a local beautician to attend club meetings and demonstrate application of cosmetics and care of the skin and hair.

One hundred and fifty three (153) members reported having used ideas on good grooming. Club members shared ideas with one hundred forty six (146) other women. This indicates club women are interested in their personal appearance and are trying to improve it.

Hat Restyling

The leaders were trained by the clothing specialist in May. The training consisted of teaching how to clean, block, and retrim a felt hat; how to make and use permanent and temporary hat blocks. Leaders from the six (6) clubs absent at this training meeting received training by attending other club meetings prior to giving demonstrations in their own clubs.

A total of sixteen (16) demonstrations were presented by leaders, with the agent assisting in two (2). Attendance at these demonstrations was lower than average. Members of some clubs were very enthusiastic about this demonstration while others were not quite as interested. However,

all felt that the demonstration was worthwhile in that it taught them to clean their hats and take better care of them.

Eighty two (82) members reported using hat restyling ideas.

4. Housing

Two (2) months, January and February, were devoted to housing work directed toward the study of (a) Storage Space for Clothing and (b) Fittings for Storage Closets.

The objectives of this demonstration were:

- (a) To teach proper clothing storage and its' value in making clothing last longer and look better - thus resulting in an economical saving and better cared for clothing.
- (b) To show the importance of using proper clothing storage accessories in caring for clothing and improving the appearance of the storage space.
- (c) To show the benefits in a child training program resulting from closets children can use.

Leaders were trained by the home improvement specialist in January. The leaders held the demonstrations, leading the discussion of ways of providing storage space, and the agent showed slides of actual home storage improvements in rural homes. Concrete examples were given of what could

be done to improve or provide needed storage space.

At the February meetings, leaders showed an exhibit of clothing storage accessories, and pictures of well equipped closets for both adults and growing children.

Seventy four (74) members reported they built storage space for clothing. Forty one (41) members reported buying or making storage accessories. Members passed on ideas to thirty five (35) other families.

5. Rural Arts

The club selected basketry for their club choice for July and August.

The objectives of these demonstrations were:

- (a) To give training in developing a skill in doing something both beautiful and useful with their hands.
- (b) To satisfy a desire to create something.

The agent mimeographed directions for curing honey suckle and willow early in March at the right season to prepare the product during the dormant period before the spring growth began. This was done to create interest in basket weaving.

The agent trained the leaders for weaving simple hot dish mats of reed on May 20, 1953 at the First Baptist Church, and twenty three (23) leaders from twelve (12) clubs

attended. The clubs not represented had decided previously to select another handicraft project and do their own training or find someone who would serve in this capacity.

Members reported they made: thirty two (32) baskets or mats; twenty nine (29) etched trays; thirty two (32) rugs, hooked and braided; nine (9) chair seats caned; thirty eight (38) chairs or stools with woven seats; twenty (20) lamps made; thirty four (34) lampshades; one hundred fifty seven (157) articles decorated with textile paints.

Members felt that the articles made were useful and attractive and saved them money. They said they enjoyed doing these.

6. Special Interest

Child Training and Sex Education

This subject was included in the program following requests from young mothers in home demonstration clubs for more information on this subject by a specialist in this field.

The objectives of this special interest meeting were:

- (a) To give authoritative information on child training problems to young mothers.
- (b) To train mothers in a frank, realistic approach to sex education.
- (c) To help mothers to better understand the adolescent and how they can guide him from childhood to a happy

healthy adulthood.

Mrs. Leland Tate, head home economics department, Blacksburg, led the discussion on child training at the First Baptist Church, Suffolk, Monday, April 27, at 8:00 p. m., to which all interested home demonstration club members and the public were invited.

Forty five (45) club members attended this meeting and expressed much interest in the subject. Many questions were asked Mrs. Tate in the discussion period. Those attending commented that the lecture-discussion was informative and applicable.

Needlecraft - Smoking, Machine Embroidery

A second special interest project carried by clubs was in needlecraft - smoking and machine embroidery.

The objective of this project was:

- (a) To give members training in making simple decorative stitches on the sewing machine that give a professional accent to clothing at little expense.

The Singer Sewing Machine Company of Suffolk conducted two (2) training meetings for the agent and the twenty three (23) leaders on decorative machine stitching. The Singer Sewing Machine Company of Portsmouth gave one (1) demonstration to members at a club meeting.

Some clubs were very interested and in others there was

little interest. There being more interest among members having small children. Sixty four (64) members reported making use of decorative stitches learned in these meetings and forty one (41) other women echoed with these ideas.

B. Other Activities

1. An Outstanding Club Member

Mrs. Jack Baird is being presented as an outstanding club member, rather than an outstanding family, because her two (2) daughters are under A-H Club age, one in the second grade and one in the kindergarden.

Mrs. Baird retired November 17, 1953, as County Chairman of the Home Demonstration Clubs after serving two years. The work of the home demonstration clubs progressed under her leadership. Mrs. Baird is a woman of above average ability and talent and is active in her church, T. E. Association, Cancer Association, and other civic organizations. She gave generously of her time and the use of her car in furthering the program in the county.

During the past two years Mrs. Baird served as president of her club, Bethlehem, and often attended leader training meetings as a substitute for absent leaders, then giving the demonstration in her club. She is continuing her club activity as a house furnishings leader in 1954.

2. A Club in Community Projects

The agent being so new in the county does not feel qualified to evaluate so soon the outstanding contribution of any particular club.

All clubs participated in various worthwhile community projects that the agent is acquainted with and many that have not come to her attention.

3. Community Improvement Work - none

4. Federation Goal Activities

"Art in Daily Living" was selected as the County Federation Goal for the year.

The objectives of the goal were:

- (a) To create a deeper appreciation for the finer arts through a study of art, nature and music.
- (b) To develop a desire to use the Bible in daily living.

The club chairman for the Federation Goal met in November, 1952, and set up their program for the year as follows:

- December: Introduction of the project and study of the Sistine Madonna by Raphael
- January: Study of the Madonna of the Harpies by Del Sarto
- February: Pictures for the Home and How to Hang Them
- March: Native Birds and Their Habitat
- April: Study and Sing an Easter Hymn
Discuss Methods of Using the Bible Daily
- May: Wild Flowers Native to Virginia and Their Identification

June: Corsage Making
July: Flower Arrangement for the Home, Club and Sick Room
September: Growing House Plants
October: Leaves and Trees
November: Study a Thanksgiving Hymn
Plan Better Devotionals for Club Meetings

These projects were well presented by the leaders. Training was given from the agent's office and the pictures of the Madonnas, birds and wild flowers were obtained and given club members to put into their scrap books. Members were urged to make individual scrap books to be judged at the achievement program for neatness, content and originality.

Ten (10) points were granted the club with the best book of an individual. No book was entered in the scrap book contest that was a combined effort of a club. Individual members expressed much interest in this Federation Goal project, as evidenced by the number and quality of scrap books prepared.

The best scrap book from each club was on display at the Home Demonstration Clubs Achievement Day November 17, along with the three (3) receiving first, second, and third places indicated by ribbons. Judging was done by three (3) teachers of the Suffolk High School, who evidenced much interest in these scrap books and the project they represented.

Home Demonstration Club Scrap Books on Federation Goal

"Art in Daily Living"

Another evidence of the interest shown in this goal was the inclusion of one (1) scene on "Art in Daily Living" in the Tableau presented at achievement day. This scene pointed up the study of art in pictures of the Madonnas, daily Bible reading by Mrs. C. W. Rountree reading the Bible, flower arrangements in the scene for home and church and by arrangements used throughout the Fellowship Hall of Bethlehem Church, where the meeting was held. The art in making corsages was demonstrated by home-made corsages worn by members participating in the program.

Members reported some time spent in the study of music and thought their music appreciation was increased as a result. One hundred eighty six (186) spent some time studying pictures. One hundred seventy eight (178) spent some time in nature study devoted toward flowers, trees and birds.

5. The County Club Objectives for 1953

The County Club objectives recommended by the County Home Demonstration Committee were:

- (a) Work together to secure a county building to accommodate large county groups and outfit a kitchen for leader training meetings.

Some contacts regarding an old school building for sale in the Bethlehem community were made by the County Chairman, members of the Executive Committee and the agent. This building was later sold to a real estate agent to be converted into apartments at a price

prohibitive for consideration by the County Federation and Board of Supervisors.

The County Committee and agent are continuing to point up the need for such a building or assembly room and kitchen.

- (b) Each club member have a physical examination, chest T. B. X-ray and carry a hospitalization policy.

One hundred forty seven (147) members reported they had an annual physical examination and one hundred thirty nine (139) had chest X-rays.

- (c) Each member qualify and vote.

One hundred thirty six (136) members reported voting during the year.

- (d) Plan to reach more people.

Members reported enrolling sixteen (16) new members in home demonstration clubs and reaching eight hundred fifty one (851) other women with ideas learned through the extension program in the county.

Other county objectives were set up in the form of club credits and used in determining club progress and recognized with the award of ribbons at Achievement Day.

- (a) Represented at each meeting of Home Demonstration Committee by President.....10 points
- (b) Two (2) leaders, or substitutes, attending training meetings.....15 points

- (e) Leaders give eight (8) demonstrations alone.....10 points
 - (d) Federation Goal Chairman attending training meeting and give demonstrations.....10 points
 - (e) Program Planning Chairman attend training meetings.....10 points
 - (f) Pay State Federation dues \$3.00 and \$4.00 County dues by February 1st.....10 points
 - (g) Average attendance of 75% at each club meeting.....15 points
 - (i) 100% of club's active members turn in written reports by October 15.....15 points
 - (j) Each club sponsor 4-H Clubs and provide leadership.....5 points
- 100 points

6. Result Demonstration

Landscaping Tri-County Suffolk Health Center in February is considered a result demonstration. Because the home demonstration clubs of Hennebec County are recognized for their interest in community improvement and their knowledge of landscaping, the county committee was asked to provide suitable shrubs around the Health Center Building.

The home demonstration clubs accepted this project because of their desire to have a part in beautifying the public health center and their deep interest in all county health projects, since better health is one of their long-time goals.

Each club made a contribution, raised through special projects of food sales, parties, and special donations. The total cost of shrubs and labor was one hundred and forty three dollars and fifty cents (\$143.50).

The result of this project is an attractively landscaped Health Center that brings pleasure to patients and visitors and persons travelling along U. S. Route 460, where the center is located a few miles north of the City of Suffolk.

7. District I Federation Meeting

Hennessy County Home Demonstration Clubs were hosts to approximately six hundred (600) members attending the District I Federation Meeting May 7, 1953, at Planters Club, near Driver, Virginia.

The District Chairman, Mrs. Mabel Gillette, a resident of Hennessy County and active member of the Magnolia home demonstration club and her committee worked on local arrangements. The clubs served lunch to four hundred ten (410) people.

One hundred and three (103) Hennessy County club members were in attendance.

8. Sponsored I. F. Y. E. Delegate to Puerto Rico

The International Farm Youth Program has as its' main purpose the promotion of better understanding among all peoples.

34
72

Norfolk Virginian Pilot

May 3, 1953

Suffolk News Herald

May 3, 1953

District I Federation Meeting

RM
34

Betty Umphlette, a former Hennessy County girl and now assistant agent in Halifax, had the honor of being chosen to represent the state as the IFYS delegate to Puerto Rico.

The delegate spent six (6) weeks in Puerto Rico, living in farm homes of the natives and studying their home and community life. Since her return she is available for illustrated lectures to groups on her experiences.

Three hundred seventy five dollars (\$375.00) was raised in the county to help defray expenses of the delegate's trip. Contributions were made by home demonstration clubs, 4-H County Council, Buritan Clubs, the Suffolk and Hennessy County banks, and interested individuals.

9. Institute of Rural Affairs

Eight (8) home demonstration club members, representing eight (8) clubs attended the Institute of Rural Affairs held at VPI, Blacksburg, Virginia, in July, 1953. Included among the representatives was the County Chairman and Chairman of District I.

On returning the two (2) county delegates visited all clubs and reported on the Institute. All in attendance expressed their desire to attend next year, because of the interesting program and good fellowship.

10. County Achievement Day

One hundred and sixty three (163) club members attended the

H. D. Clubs Achievement Day held November 17, in the Fellowship Hall of the Bethlehem Christian Church.

The work of the sixteen (16) home demonstration clubs was presented in a Tableau of four (4) scenes, planned and written by a committee of club members. Each of the clubs had a definite responsibility for the meeting. (see program page 26-a)

Awards were presented clubs based on club credits prepared by the County Committee and included in the 1953 Year Book. The new County Chairman, Mrs. N. T. Pearch, and the Secretary, Mrs. Jesse Hancock, were installed at the end of the meeting. (see news clipping page 26-b)

VI. 4-H CLUB WORK

There are six (6) 4-H Clubs in the county, one (1) in each of the three (3) high schools and three (3) graded schools. 4-H Club meetings were held in schools monthly during the school term. Intermittent meetings were held during the summer in leader's homes.

The adult leaders attend club meetings and assist with all phases of the 4-H Club Program.

A. Project Work

1. Foods and Nutrition

Two (2) clubs, Holland and Whaleyville selected meal planning and preparation in 1953 at a planning meeting conducted by Miss Mary Mcenan in June, 1952.

-26a-

H. D. Achievement Program

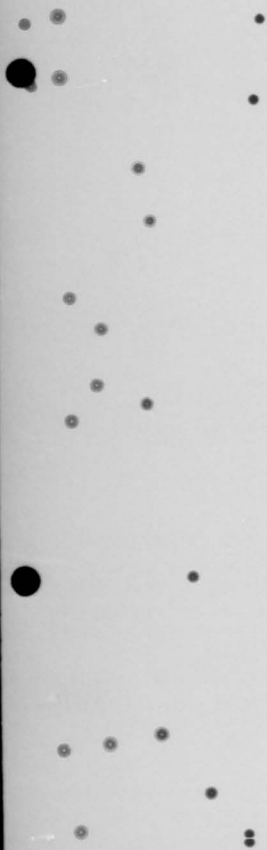
34
72

Suffolk News Herald

Nov. 15, 1953

Suffolk News Herald

Nov. 17, 1953



H. D. Achievement Day



H. D. Achievement Day

The two (2) objectives as stated in the plan of work were:

- (a) To teach good nutrition.
- (b) To develop skills in food planning, preparation and service.

Leaders for this project were trained by the food and nutrition specialist in October (1952). These leaders gave short demonstrations at the schools in either the home economics department or the school cafeteria. Most of the work on this project was started at the club meetings and completed at home, because of the time allowed for club meetings in the schools.

Seventy (70) girls carried this project and fifty two (52) completed it, and reported three hundred twenty four (324) dishes prepared and one hundred thirteen (113) meals served.

Four (4) girls carried canning projects and three (3) freezing projects in the Holland and Whaleyville clubs.

The objectives for these projects were:

- (a) To teach the best methods of preserving foods.
- (b) To teach skills and techniques in food preservation.

As a result of these projects the girls canned a total of seven hundred fifty six (756) quarts and froze two hundred eighty nine (289) pounds of vegetables, fruits and meats alone.

One (1) girl in the Holland Club carried a Bread project and

completed this.

2. Clothing

Three (3) clubs, Driver, Kings Fork and Cypress, selected clothing projects for major emphasis. Eighty six (86) girls selected "So You'd Like to Sew".

The objectives of this project were:

- (a) To teach girls simple sewing techniques by making articles not requiring commercial patterns.
- (b) To teach girls the value of having and using good sewing equipment.

Agent trained project leaders, who assisted in club demonstrations and gave individual guidance outside of school.

Fifty three (53) of these girls completed their projects.

Twenty one (21) girls selected the "Make or Remake" project.

The objectives were:

- (a) To plan their wardrobes according to what they have and need.
- (b) To use and adjust patterns and to make body measurements.
- (c) To learn good construction techniques and appreciate them.

Leaders were trained by the agent and leaders gave short

demonstrations in schools and project work was completed outside of school. Eighteen (18) girls completed this project.

Girls in these two (2) projects completed a total of one hundred and five (105) articles and eighty three (83) garments.

3. Room Improvement

One (1) club, Chucoktuck, selected Room Improvement as their major emphasis project. Members in other clubs carried this as an extra project.

The objectives were:

- (a) To develop in 4-H club members an appreciation of better standards and good taste in furnishings.
- (b) To teach them to use what they have to better advantage and give their rooms daily care by approved methods.

Adult and junior leaders attended a program planning meeting held by Miss Mary Moorman in June, 1952 to plan next year's project program and demonstrations. The agent gave leaders additional training.

Fifty five (55) members carried the project and forty three (43) completed it, a total of one hundred twenty nine (129) articles were made or bought and forty three rooms improved.

B. Other 4-H Club Activities

1. State 4-H Short Course

Among the five (5) 4-H Club members attending the annual short course at VPI in June were two (2) girls. Only club members fourteen (14) years of age or older, who have completed at least three (3) years of club work and have their project work up to date are eligible to attend from Hansemond County.

One (1) of the girls, Jackie Walker, of the Chesapeake Club was taken into the All-Star Organization.

2. 4-H Club District Camp

Eight (8) girls attended 4-H Club Camp at Camp Farrar in July.

The objectives were the teaching of (a) group cooperation and leadership to younger club members and (b) to teach skills in handicrafts.

3. 4-H Conservation Camp

Three (3) girls attended the State 4-H Conservation Camp at Camp Farrar in August for club members fourteen (14) years of age or older.

Objectives of this camp were (a) to offer training in conservation and (b) to develop leadership qualities.

4. 4-H Club Picnic

One hundred and fifty (150) 4-H Club members, their

parents, brothers and sisters and friends attended the county-wide picnic held at Planters Club on July 21.

The picnic was planned and conducted by the 4-H Club County Council members assisted by adult leaders and agents. Picnic lunches were provided by members and their families. All present enjoyed swimming in the pool, pitching horse shoes and relaxing in the shade while the temperature was in the upper nineties.

5. 4-H Club Achievement Day

4-H Club members held their annual achievement day on Saturday, November 7. Approximately one hundred and seventy five (175) club members, their families and friends were present.

Each club with the assistance of adult leaders arranged exhibits of their project accomplishments. Judging the exhibits were the Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors, Mr. Vernon Eberwine, Mr. L. E. Pettyjohn, agricultural representative of the American Bank and Trust Company of Suffolk, Mrs. Jack Baird, retiring Chairman of the Home Demonstration Club County Committee, Mrs. H. T. Peareh, incoming Chairman of the Home Demonstration Club County Committee, and Mrs. Jesse Hancock, former adult leader and very active home demonstration club member.

The adult leaders prepared and served a weenie roast.

A short 4-H Council business meeting was held prior to the evening program, at which time new Council Officers were elected.

Highlights of the evening program were the presentation of project awards by the extension agents and presentation of the County Club Plaque to the most outstanding Club. (see news clipping page 32-a)

Miss Cora Blackmore, an All-Star 4-H Club member, gave an illustrated talk on her recent trip to Australia as an IFIE delegate.

Installation of new County Council Officers with a special candle lighting ceremony concluded the program. (see program page 32-b)

6. Club Projects to Finance County Council Activities

Five (5) clubs sold All Occasion Greeting Cards for a fifty percent (50%) profit. Some clubs sold candy and cookies.

7. 4-H Club Girl Wins Trip to National Leadership Camp

Otelia Westbrook, All-Star 4-H Club member of Hennesson County, was chosen to represent Virginia 4-H Club members at the National Leadership Camp held at Camp Minnivanca, Michigan, August 3-16, 1953. (see news clipping page 32-c)

VII. YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN'S WORK

Young women's work during 1953 was with individuals who are enrolled

Norfolk Virginian Pilot - Sunday, Nov. 8, 1953

4-11 Achievement Day Program

Hansenoid Girl Wins Honore

in 4-H Clubs or Home Demonstration Clubs. During the past year two (2) women in this age group served as presidents of their H. D. Clubs - Mrs. A. L. Benton, Jr., of Eva Minix and Mrs. Robert March, Jr., of Livesay, and received special training from the agent. Also there are women of this age group who served as leaders in many clubs.

VIII. SCOPE OF WORK

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Number of H. D. Clubs or Groups	18	20	20	20	16*
Membership	377	439	520	520	467
Number of 4-H Clubs	6	6	6	6	6
Membership	123	139	116	120	151
No. Young Men & Women's Groups	0	0	0	0	0
Membership	-	-	-	-	-
Number other families reached	977	1030	1500	400	851
Number different families reached	1477	1644	1700	1000	1137
Number community clubs	0	0	0	0	0
Membership	-	-	-	-	-

*Clubs not meeting for past six (6) months not included.

IX. FUNCTION OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

A. County Board of Agriculture

Since the present agent's brief period in the office no mention has been made of a county board of agriculture.

B. County Home Demonstration Committee

The County Home Demonstration Committee, composed of sixteen (16) club presidents and five (5) officers, are elected to serve a two (2) year period. They met in September, 1952 to set up a month by month project demonstration program, after discussing needs in their respective club communities. A program development chairman from each club attended the meeting with the club president and gave the club report.

The projects requested were classified under subject matter heads and demonstrations were selected by the group to meet their needs.

The second meeting of the H. D. Committee was called in April, 1953, to check the progress of the program to date and plan any necessary changes. Plans were made for the District I Federation meeting to be held in the county, and the Achievement Day Committee and Year Book Committees appointed.

A special meeting of the officers of the County Committee was called in August to make plans to serve a luncheon to a group attending a farmers' meeting. This fund raising project netted the committee one hundred and forty dollars (\$140.00).

A third meeting of the County Committee was held in September to discuss and make plans for the home demonstration clubs Achievement Day to be held November 17, 1953.

The Committee Officers attended and participated in the Program of Work Committee Meeting in September, 1953.

C. County Girls 4-H Club Project Planning Committee

Planning committee met in July to plan the 1953 club demonstrations. Miss Ann Wills, district agent, conducted the meeting.

D. County 4-H Club Council

The County 4-H Council is composed of all officers (boys and girls) of the six (6) clubs, who handle all business pertaining to 4-H Club work in the county, under the guidance of the adult leaders, home agent and assistant farm agent.

E. County 4-H Honor Club

This county does not have an Honor Club.

F. County Chapter of 4-H All Stars

This county does not have a chapter at present, but it is contemplated one will be organized during the coming year.

G. Other Committees

There are no others meeting regularly that the agent knows of.

X. Leadership

A. Contribution of the Volunteer Leaders to the Program

1. Organizational Leaders

The organizational leaders, composed of four (4) club officers in each of the sixteen (16) H. D. Clubs carry the responsibility for the functioning of the clubs.

The presidents attended two (2) regular meetings, one (1) in the spring and another in the fall, and one (1) extra meeting in which they received a briefing of the plan of work for the year. These club officers are initiated at a special ceremony in each club and consider it a privilege to be a leader. Five (5) county officers and sixty four (64) club organizational officers make a total of sixty nine (69) for the county.

The H. D. Club's success depends on the leadership ability and interest of the club president. The secretaries keep accurate records of the meetings. In order for a club to succeed it is necessary to have a secretary who attends meetings regularly and keeps accurate records.

The organizational leaders of the 4-H Clubs and County Council are president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer and reporter. Eleven (11) girls served as officers in the six (6) clubs and by virtue of their offices were members of the County 4-H Council.

4-H Club officers conduct their business meetings, plan programs, announce meetings, plan their annual achievement day program and county picnic.

2. Program Development

The sixteen (16) program development leaders, one from each club, have the responsibility of keeping aware of their club's needs in relation to program planning the following year and guiding the members in determining their needs.

One (1) training meeting for program development leaders, with eleven (11) leaders present was held in April by the District Agent.

Five (5) clubs failed to have representatives at this meeting which was reflected in the quality of program planning done in these clubs and in the manner these clubs were represented at the Program Development Meeting in September.

It is the opinion of the present agent that the change in agents in Hanscom County in the early summer is partially responsible for the ineffective program planning done in some clubs. This phase of the program needs strengthening during the coming year.

Twenty two (22) program development leaders and club presidents attended the meeting in September to plan the 1954 program. Three (3) clubs had no representatives at this meeting and were among those absent at the April meeting.

3. Subject Matter Leaders

Subject matter leaders are usually members who have a profound interest in the subject being demonstrated, and possess a willingness to learn new ideas and techniques.

Subject matter leaders served to bring project demonstrations to their clubs after being trained by subject matter

specialists or the agent.

One hundred forty seven (147) subject matter leaders gave a total of one hundred thirty five (135) method demonstrations. Often two (2) leaders cooperated in giving a demonstration.

Sixteen (16) Federation Goal Chairmen gave one hundred and seventy six (176) subject matter demonstrations on Goal.

4-H Adult Leadership was good in clubs having leaders.

B. Growth of H. D. Project Leadership in Five Year Period

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
No. Project Leaders (subject matter)	97	121	160	180	147
No. Goal Chairmen	20	20	20	20	16
No. Training Meetings held by Specialists	2	17	3	8	5
held by agent	0	0	0	0	6
Attendance at all training meetings	216	423	360	382	232
No. Club meetings held by leaders with- out agent present	49	85	54	67	63
No. additional meetings at which leader assisted	22	14	10	10	19

Growth of 4-H Club Project Leadership in Five Year Period

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
No. Adult Project Leaders	26	12	12	6	8
No. Junior Leaders	7	6	7	9	12

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
No. Training meetings held by specialists	1	1	0	3	1
held by agent	7	12	16	9	12
Attendance at leader training meetings	14	47	63	132	20
No. A-H Leaders trained individually	26	12	12	16	7
No. Club Meetings held by leaders alone"	52	17	7	7	8
No. Additional Club meetings with leaders assisting	28	30	31	51	46
No. Demonstrations by Adult Leaders	52	17	23	17	21
by Junior Leaders	9	66	46	62	12

*all summer groups reported as separate clubs in 1949

C. Outstanding Contribution of Adult A-H Club Leader

Mrs. Joe Henry Gardner, mother of an outstanding A-H Club boy now in Holland High School, is the county outstanding A-H adult leader for the third year. Her devotion to the young people and her capable leadership have endeared her to her community and county. Her A-H Club, at Holland School, won the County A-H Achievement Plaque for the third consecutive year. This club holds its' members through the longest age range.

This leader worked with the club members between the regular school monthly meetings and during the summer. She and her helper, Mrs.

A. W. Moore, prepared the demonstration materials and gave the eight (8) project demonstrations given at this school. During the summer months, this club meets at the Box Elder Community House and the demonstrations are given by the A-H members assisted by their

tour was made of the center.

The Director furnished the agent with county health data to use in the Program Development meeting held in September (1953).

D. Other Health Organizations

Home demonstration clubs are continuing their annual health budget to support research and aid for Cancer, E. B., Paralysis, Heart Disease and Polio.

Several clubs made donations of foods and funds to the Patrick Henry Hospital, located near Danbigh, Virginia.

E. Public Schools

The home and assistant farm agent were invited to attend the fall meeting of the county school principals and teachers to outline the objectives and methods employed in the 4-H Club Program. The superintendent and school principals cooperate by excusing 4-H members from classes one (1) period per month to attend 4-H Club meetings. Principals announce meetings over public address system and make what space they have available for club meetings.

F. Cooperation With the Red Cross

All clubs prepared and wrapped the customary Christmas gifts for the Naval Hospital in Portsmouth. The clubs sent a generous check from their budget to the Red Cross in their annual drive.

G. Cooperation With the T. B. Association

The county H. B. Clubs prepared and wrapped fancy packages to

- demonstrate how T. B. Seals can be used instead of the commercially sold Christmas Seals. These packages were used in the Virginia Electric and Power Company window to draw emphasis to the T. B. Seal Drive.

The clubs sent a generous check from their budget for the T. B. Drive and members assisted in the T. B. X-ray Clinic held in March and April.

H. Work With Press and Radio

A report of the weekly schedule of home demonstration clubs is carried in the local daily papers, Suffolk News Herald, and two (2) Norfolk papers, Virginian Pilot and Norfolk Ledger Dispatch. Special news items or monthly demonstrations, program of work, etc. are printed by these papers. These papers give good coverage to special H. D. and 4-H Club events with pictures.

A regular Monday broadcast on the Farm and Home Hour at 12:35 p. m., over Radio Station WLPM is used by the home agent.

Special broadcasts were given prior to and following H. D. Achievement Day and 4-H Club Achievement Day. Some of these broadcasts are given jointly with the assistant county agent.

Announcement of H. D. Club meetings is made on the 6 o'clock News Hour by the station.

I. Work With Banks

The home demonstration club Year Book was sponsored by The Farmers Bank of Henric in 1953. It goes into approximately

five hundred (500) rural and urban homes.

Mr. E. E. Jones, president of the American Bank and Trust Company, Suffolk, attended the H. D. Achievement Day Program November 17, 1953. Also in attendance was Mr. R. H. Bradford, manager of the Farm Service Department, of The Farmers Bank of Hanscom, Suffolk.

J. Farmers Home Administration

The agent spent one (1) day in August working with the local F. H. A. Supervisor, and plans to work with him again in January.

Some of the F. H. A. homemakers are members of the H. D. Clubs and the agent has met a few H. D. club women, who were formerly on the Farm O worship Program of the F. H. A. and now own their farms.

XII. APPRAISAL OF THE YEAR'S WORK (by former agent)

The progress of the extension program with adults and 4-H members through the first half of the year has been good, but not outstanding. The attendance at leader training meetings has not been as good as in former years, and the agent has made a greater effort to reach and train these leaders by various means.

A growing tension due to over-organization and too many duties outside of the home has been noted, and this has cut the attendance of both training meetings and regular club meetings.

An increasing number of young women have joined the clubs, but

attend irregularly, due to home ties with young children. At the same time a comparable number of older women have dropped their names from the club rolls by request.

A growing number of urban women have requested and received individual assistance by telephone and personal calls. The program has contributed to better homemaking and rural living and improved the family living of adults and youth.

APPRAISAL OF THE WORK FROM JULY 1, 1953 TO DECEMBER 1, 1953

(by present agent)

It is difficult to appraise the progress of the extension program with adults and A-W members for the period July 1 through November 30, because of my short stay in the county and of being new in extension work.

I am not particularly pleased with the progress made but neither am I discouraged, as I believe more progress can and will be made in both the adult and A-W Clubs program as I become better acquainted with the program and the people and they learn to know me.

In my opinion the program can be strengthened by:

1. Giving club officers more training in parliamentary procedure to make business sessions effective and shorter. Little time is left for some demonstrations, due to long drawn out business meetings. This increases the problem of getting subject matter leaders and causes members to lose interest.

2. Offering more guidance to club presidents in selecting capable members for program development leaders. Agent needs to follow through on training offered program development leaders in spring. Agent also needs to be present at club meetings when next year's program planning is discussed to give support to leaders and help crystallize discussions.

Increased effort should be made to get one hundred percent (100%) attendance at Program Development meetings. Only thirteen (13) out of sixteen (16) clubs were represented at the last meeting in September. By strengthening this phase of the program, the entire adult program should be more effective and interesting to members.

3. Providing adult leaders with more demonstration materials other than mimeographed information to assist them in giving demonstrations with visual appeal. This idea was advanced by the house furnishings specialist on a recent visit with me and plans are underway to provide three (3) kits for house furnishings leaders to use in demonstrations on Fabrics and Window Treatments during January and February.

The cooperation of local merchants is being obtained in getting swatches of house furnishings fabrics, either as gifts or at substantial discount and the loan of different types of window hardware for these kits. Any expense will be taken care of by the County N. D. Committee. Kits will be located in different sections of the county and routed to club meetings.

After the demonstrations the kits will be kept in the agent's office for future club use or use with individuals outside of organized clubs.

In my opinion, the use of such illustrative material will make for ease in getting subject matter leaders to serve and assist them in giving more effective demonstrations. The lack of difficulty in getting foods leaders may stem from the fact they can get all materials locally that they use in club demonstrations.

- 4. Making more home visits to become better acquainted with members and to observe their home situations and determine their needs will provide me with a better understanding of the local situation.

This appraisal is based solely on the improvements that should be made in my work as I see it.