

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT  
HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK  
GREENE COUNTY

1948

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Home Demonstration Agent

December 1, 1947 - November 30, 1948

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111. Scope of Work

A. Home Demonstration Clubs:

Number 10 Membership 200

Other women reached by Home Demonstration Club members 298

B. A-H Clubs:

Number 13 Membership 215

C. Number reached through other groups by agent 225

D. Number families reached through neighborhood and community  
leaders 400

E. Other methods used to reach families (publicity, radio,  
office calls, visits) 3

Number families reached 450

F. Estimate total number families reached 495

Number farm families in county 639

IV. Adult Work

A. Home Demonstration Club Program

1. Project Work

There are eight organized Home Demonstration Clubs in the County. These Clubs were responsible for County year's program. In summer meetings, needs and wishes of the club members and community were discussed. The most important of these were brought to the County Home Demonstration Committee Meeting held in the Home Demonstration Office by the Club Presidents. The County Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer and key persons

in the County were present. At this County Meeting, the needs and requests of the different clubs were discussed. The demonstrations that best suited the County were put in the County program. Three months were given to Club Choices so that special requests could be taken care of.

The Club Presidents then took the suggested program to the Club and each Club made additions and corrections and accepted the program.

Work on the Club basis was done this year in Handicraft, Modernizing Lamps, Health and Safety, Food Preparation, Home Improvement, Buying and Repairing Equipment and Clothing.

a. Handicraft

Handicraft articles were started in December because some members wanted to make Christmas gifts. Other members wanted to learn to do certain things so they could start work after the Holidays. Women have more time to work with the needle in the winter months. Thirty-two members reported doing 243 articles. These articles included bedspreads, rugs, aprons, stuffed toys, dresser scarves and table mats.

b. Modernizing Lamps

The Orange County Home Demonstration Agent taught the Greene Home Agent how to do this work. Supplies for work at the meeting were bought by the Home Agent and sold to club members at the meetings. They were told what and where to get other supplies for home work. Seventy-three lamps were made at Club

Meetings. One new club of 12 members was started and twelve new members were secured as a result of this demonstration. Two demonstrations were given to unorganized groups and some clubs gave two meetings to the wiring and studying how to best use the light. One demonstration was given to older 4-H Club members. Fifteen days were spent by the Agent on this project. 132 different persons saw the demonstrations and an estimated total of 142 lamps were done in the County. Lamps were made from old oil lamps, bottles, jugs and candle sticks. One reason this demonstration was so popular was that many persons had just secured electricity and had not bought lamps already made from stores. It also gave an outlet for apt members to do something outstanding with the hands.

c. Food Preparation

Three months were devoted to food in the County program. One month was on Frozen Salads and one on Desserts. The frozen salad demonstration had a discussion of how to buy and use a refrigerator along with it.

One month was spent on desserts. The one-bowl cake, black-berry pudding, apple upside down cake, and ice box cookies were demonstrated at these meetings.

The other food project was on the Master-Mixes. The demonstration for this was first given at a Leader Training Meeting by the Assistant Specialist. Leaders from six clubs gave this demonstration at club meetings. They used the mix and made a

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cake or pie.

Five of the Frozen Salad Demonstrations were given by leaders who attended the Leader Training Meeting.

South River Club had a meeting on Salads and Salad Dressings as a club choice.

Amicus Club made Christmas candy at the December meeting as a club choice.

Attendance at meetings where food demonstrations were given usually were greater than any with the exception of lamp making this year.

Cheese rennet and coloring was secured for two families for neighborhood use. Twenty pounds were reported made.

d. Food Preservation

One demonstration was given to adults in Canning and one in the use of Frozen Food Locker. Seventy members reported 5,993 quarts of fruit canned; 11,839 quarts of vegetables and 2,765 quarts of meat canned. Nineteen reported 5,250 quarts of fruit stored. Thirty-seven reported 29,756 pounds of vegetables stored and forty-seven reported 37,365 pounds of meat cured. Eleven persons reported 234 pounds of fruit frozen; 756 pounds of vegetables frozen and 638 pounds of meat frozen. There are four home freezers in the County. About 12 others use the lockers at Charlottesville, Madison and Elkton.

e. Home Improvement

Two club months were devoted to Home improvement. One month

was given to using things on hand to redecorate the bedroom. The other month was given to bedroom accessories. Twenty-seven persons reported 74 improvements made in the bedroom.

The bedroom demonstrations consisted of best type of room, kind of wall paper to use, type of floor finish the best and the arrangement of furniture and pictures. Rug making and bedspread making was again shown. Some of this was reported under Handicraft. Around 100 good pictures were sold by the Home Agent and these are framed and hung correctly in homes now.

Three meetings on bedrooms were held without the Agent. Three other demonstrations were given by leaders who attended the Leader Training Meeting held by the House Furnishings Specialist.

Even though only two months were given at club meetings, more improvements were made in other rooms of the house and on the outside.

Mrs. Russell Morris of the Ridge Club moved to an old house this year. She and her husband completely remodeled th house. Partitions were put up, bath room put in, kitchen changed, wall paper was put on some walls and paint on others, new furnishings made and to the best taste.

Mrs. E. C. Compton is still working on remodeling the house. This really is a result demonstration to be proud of.

Running water and bath and other improvements were put in this year.

A general trend seemed to be for better living conditions in the home and the greatest stress was on kitchens. This will be given under Kitchen and Equipment.

f. Buying and Repairing Equipment

One club meeting was given to things to know in buying and using a refrigerator and other pieces of equipment. Forty-four members reported buying 102 pieces of electrical equipment. Thirty-six reported buying other pieces of equipment. The Agent gave individual advice on buying large and small equipment for the home.

Leaders gave 7 demonstrations on the Use of the Refrigerator.

Two clubs held meetings without the Agent.

Sewing machine repairing, cleaning and adjusting was still a popular job of the Home Agent. Thirty machines were cleaned by the Agent. Twenty-seven persons reported cleaning 32 machines of their own. Five clinics were held during the year by the Home Agent.

Fifty-five pounds of chair bottoming material was secured this year for club members. This meant about fifty chairs had bottoms put in. This work was done by the persons who bought the material.

g. Kitchen Improvement

The Home Agent had 5 calls from non club members on arranging kitchens and other kitchen improvements.

Club members have been more conscious of having a well arranged kitchen. Most of the electrical equipment bought was for the kitchen. Members rearranged the room to save time and energy. More club members allowed kitchen demonstrations this year because they were proud to show the improvement.

h. Clothing

The September meeting was devoted to what to look for in buying ready made and yard goods. Club members will be a little more careful to read labels and heed them after this demonstration. Fabrics were taken to the meeting and actual selection according to finish, fabric and quality was done.

Three clubs had all-day sewing days. At these meetings anything may be worked on. The day the Geer Club met in the President's home, 15 persons were present. Four new dresses were cut out, 2 old ones were remodeled, 2 dresses already cut out were partly constructed, 3 aprons and a pair of pajamas were worked on. Others helped and got ideas for Christmas gifts.

Three clubs had meetings on how to cut out a garment by the use of a pattern.

The Quinque, Ridge and Evergreen clubs had apron making as a club choice. A discussion was given on the type of apron to use for housework and the kind for a "party apron". Cutting out aprons and patterns followed the discussion.

Forty-eight members reported making 507 garments. Seventeen persons reported gaining skills this year in making dresses.

1. Garden Work

A Garden Specialist visited the County for two days. He conducted four community meetings and made six home visits. He gave some helps on planting vegetables and how to keep down insects.

j. Poultry

A Poultry Specialist conducted eleven Flock Improvement Demonstrations. He visited these flocks twice during the year.

While the Specialist was in the County, he conducted a meeting for Veterans on Poultry Raising. About 50 veterans heard this discussion.

k. Landscape Gardening

The Landscape Garden Specialist made plans for 4 home grounds improvements. Last year, five homes had this work. All nine homes are being improved somewhat.

One home has changed the driveway from in the yard to the side, has put up a fence recommended, has moved shrubs and has material for the flagstone walk.

One lady has done the rebuilding necessary before the yard can be improved.

Others have planted the recommended shrubs and started on the improvement of the grounds. Twenty-six club members reported making 49 improvements on the grounds this year.

2. Federation Goal

Health was chosen as the Federation Goal because there

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is a great need for improved health of club members, neighbors and County. They wanted to be better informed about the better health movement over the nation.

One Club Meeting was devoted to Health.

In cooperation with other agencies, the appropriation was made by the Board of Supervisors for a County Health Unit. This is not in operation yet because of the lack of a properly trained nurse.

Twelve members reported having a physical examination.

One club member was Chairman of the T. B. Association for the County. She assisted with a rummage sale and sponsored a dance and a radio show to raise funds to help hospitalized needy cases.

Seven members helped with the school lunch program at schools.

The Agent helped sponsor the T. B. Chest X-ray Clinic. Some educational work was done on this at club meetings.

The clubs sponsored the Cancer Drive. Fifty dollars was given by one club on this drive. Other clubs gave enough to go over the allotted amount to collect from the county.

Safety in the home was also selected as a Federation Goal. This was chosen because so many accidents have happened on the farm.

The State Safety Chairman, Mrs. Ellis Powell is in this County. She represented the Federation of H. D. Clubs at

Norfolk at the State Safety Council Meeting. She spoke there. She spoke at the District Federation Meeting on "Safety in the Home" and at the Stafford Achievement Day. She attended the State Federation of H. D. Clubs at Blacksburg and served on the executive board. She also spoke at the State Meeting.

The Club Safety Chairman gave a discussion of Safety at club meetings. All clubs took part in the rat campaign. Eighteen club members reported putting out the poison recommended by the Safety Chairman.

An Entomologist from the State Department held a county meeting on insect and rodent control. All three communities were represented in spite of the bad night.

Nineteen club members reported doing 45 things to make the farm more safe.

### 3. Other Activities

Each club held a Christmas Party and invited the families. At these parties, games were played that could carry over in the home. Decorations were used that could be repeated in the home.

The Geer Christmas Party was the beginning of a group of parties for the young folks in that neighborhood. Seven club members held a party during the winter months and invited the neighbors in. The activity they enjoyed most was the Virginia Reel.

One club sponsored a radio show to make money.

Twelve women and one man attended the District Federation Meeting held in Bowling Green. One of the members gave the

invocation and one spoke on Safety in the Home.

Two club members and the Agent attended the State Federation Meeting in Blacksburg. The Safety Goal Chairman gave a talk to the group on Safety in the Home.

Twenty-five Home Demonstration Club Women and Friends toured Williamsburg and saw the pageant "Common Glory." This was an educational tour and was enjoyed very much.

A County Picnic was held on Skyline Drive for club members and families. Five clubs and 55 persons were present in spite of the extreme cold weather for August. After the food was eaten, games and singing were enjoyed around the camp fire. Some county-wide interest committees met. Many club members met members from other clubs for the first time. This meeting gave new club members a better understanding of the scope of the Home Agent's job.

The year book was made by a committee who planned it and put the pages together. The typing was done by the office secretary. The year book contained the club creed, the county federation officers, the club program, officers, leaders and hostesses and some songs. The County and Club goals were also included.

#### 4. Leadership

Organization Leaders saw that the club meeting was carried on in the correct way. Each club had a President, Vice-President and Secretary and Treasurer and project leaders.

The President's job is to conduct the meeting, make certain minor decisions of the club and to attend the County H. D. Committee Meetings.

The Secretary takes the minutes of the meeting and attends to correspondence of the club.

The Treasurer handles the money of the club.

Each club has a Federation Goal Chairman. This year we had a Health and a Safety Chairman. These leaders worked with club members on these phases of the club program.

Project leaders attended County Leader Training Meetings and gave demonstrations to club members in the presence or absence of the Agent. Some leaders are trained in small groups by the Agent.

Seven leader training meetings were held with 54 leaders in attendance.

Eighteen meetings were held without the Agent with an attendance of 206 persons. Thirty-seven method demonstrations were given by leaders to adult groups and 24 to 4-H groups. Fifty-two talks or discussions were given to adult groups and nine to 4-H members.

Leader Training Meetings on the county basis were conducted this year by a Garden Specialist, the Assistant Food Specialist, the House Furnishing Specialist, the District Home Demonstration Agent and the County Home Agent.

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Fifty-two club members reported passing on information gotten at club meetings to 298 persons.

Other activities of leaders were given under project work.

B. Other Means of Reaching People

An estimated 315 homes were reached this year in addition to the club members. This was done by office and home visits, by telephone calls, by personal contact at other meetings, by distribution of bulletins, circular letters and by articles written for the Greene County Record.

Six thousand, four hundred, fifty-five miles were traveled, 341 home visits made (137 different ones), 293 office calls, 208 telephone calls, 3,110 bulletins given out and 28 news articles written.

Forty-six meetings of an extension nature were participated in by Home Agent for adult work and seven for 4-H.

V. 4-H Club Work

A. Organization

There are 13 4-H Clubs organized in the County with an enrollment of 215 girls and 20 boys. Eleven of the girls are unorganized, and work independent of a club. In the summer, some of these clubs break up into neighborhood groups.

This was the way the club meetings were handled. The President called the meeting to order. The Secretary called the

roll and read the minutes of the previous meeting. The song leaders led in one or two songs. The committees reported. The old and new business was taken up.

Business consisted of action on the committee work, on how to raise money and spend it, what entertainment they may and could have.

Some of the clubs had a program. This was carried on by the club members. They had skits, talks and songs.

Project work usually consisted of a discussion of what was to be done, what had been done and a demonstration on the project work. When there was something to make, the actual construction was started at the club meetings.

If time permitted, games were played at the end of the meeting.

The club meetings ended with the club pledge and motto. The President led this. The meetings usually lasted one hour.

Two clubs held meetings out of school. These usually lasted 2 1/2 hours .

1. Project Work

a. The program was determined by the members with the aid of the Agent. Since most clubs did not have project leaders who attended the regular meetings, one project was selected for the winter months. The Agent gave these demonstrations in most cases.

One hundred eleven method demonstrations were given to a total of 1,593 attendance. Twelve meetings were held by local leaders with 84 in attendance not participated in by Agent. Twenty-four method demonstrations were given and twelve talks or discussions were given to A-H groups.

Work this year was carried in Food Selection and Preparation, <sup>Food Preservation</sup> Clothing Care, Clothing Construction and Learning to Sew and Housekeeping. Gardening was chosen by eight boys but not too much was done in this. A total of 347 projects were started. Two hundred eighty-six projects were completed.

#### B. Projects

##### 1. Food Selection and Preparation Bread

This project was taken by 60 club members in 3 groups. Forty-three members completed the project. Five adult leaders helped with this project. One thousand two hundred six dishes were cooked by the girls.

The Dyke Senior Club took the bread project. The demonstrations were given in the lunch room. These members were young, but they carried the project well. They were given enough time to finish the demonstration at each meeting. The group was divided into smaller groups and each member had a chance to actually prepare the food. Before the group was divided, the Agent or one of the girls demonstrated how the project was to be made. One of these girls entered the County Contest.

The Ruckersville Senior Club worked out of school on Friday night or Saturday afternoon. These girls actually prepared the food. Demonstrations were given by the girls.

After the project was completed, the girls met all day and cooked a full meal. They had scrambled eggs, mashed potatoes, vegetable and fruit salad, bran muffins, chocolate pudding and iced tea. The ten girls and 2 leaders enjoyed this very much. After lunch, a soft ball game was played and pictures taken.

Two girls from this group entered the Area Contest in food. Mary Newton Lindsey and Violette Haney entered the Food Preparation and Dairy Foods Contests. Both won blue awards.

The Stanardsville Senior Club met in homes. The project was conducted as the other clubs at the meetings. At the close of this project, the club leader and Agent went to Verbena Park for an out-door-cookery lesson. The club members cooked fried chicken, corn on the cob, hashed potatoes and cooked bread out of doors. They had Angel's delight for dessert. Drinks, tomatoes and apples were also included in the menu.

The Food Specialist conducted a canning demonstration and a demonstration on how to give a demonstration for the 4-H leaders in Foods work. Ten junior leaders were present at this meeting.

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2. Food Preservation

Forty-one girls enrolled in this project with 25 completing. Seven hundred fifty-five quarts of food were canned alone and 2, 815 quarts were helped with.

Mary Newton Lindsey won a red ribbon at the Area Contest and won the County Medal for most work done.

3. Clothing

Only one club took the Clothing Care Project. Twenty girls were enrolled and 16 completed. This project was carried along with Clothing Construction and the following was reported done: 25 darned 153 garments, 20 patched 70 garments, 7 dry cleaned 21 garments, 27 washed and blocked 154 sweaters, 32 stored winter things, 29 stored summer things. One hundred seventeen buttons were sewed on. Fifty three have a complete sewing kit. Twenty eight have own pattern.

Five project groups took Make or Remake Clothing Project. Thirty members enrolled and twenty eight completed. Three leaders helped with this project.

Sixteen girls made 28 new garments for themselves; 5 made 21 new garments for others; 6 reported remodeling 23 garments for themselves; 3 reported remodeling 5 garments for others. Eight dyed 11 garments.

These girls were given help in club meetings by leaders and by Agent. Three demonstrations were given by girls, 3 by

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leaders and 19 by Agent.

Twelve members entered the County Dress Revue and one the Area Contest. Forty four girls entered the Clothing Achievement and one the Area. Both girls entering the Area Contests received red awards.

Three clubs took Learning to Sew. Forty two members enrolled and 33 completed. Six members gave demonstrations. A total of 214 articles were made including 42 sewing boxes, 9 head scarves, 35 needle cases, 23 aprons, 1 laundry bag, 4 stuffed toys, 18 towels, 4 broomstick skirts, 40 handkerchiefs and 38 pin cushions.

The club members learned to thread the needle, make a knot in thread, use a needle correctly, measure accurately, straighten fabric, make a narrow hem by hand, make a rolled hem, fold hem evenly, cut a square, select fabric better, pull thread, do overhand stitch, stuff pincushion and come to stitch by machine.

#### 4. Housekeeping

Six project groups took Housekeeping as the project. One hundred twelve members enrolled with 105 completing. Fifteen demonstrations were given by members, 3 by helpers and 30 by Agent.

Sixty five members cared for a room for 3 months and 40

cared for room 12 months. Total number members who did the following at least 2 months: 21 mended linens, 92 washed dishes, 52 cleaned lamps, 84 set table, 43 cared for garbage, 70 bought in fuel. Nine lengthened a pair of sheets, 12 made tool boxes, 4 provided a place to store things, 16 made table mats, 7 put screw eyes in brooms and mops. Thirty five members rearranged a room for easier care.

Five members remodeled five pieces of furniture, 4 renovated six pairs of curtains, 2 renovated pictures, 40 other furnishings were made.

Seven meetings were held in homes. The others were held at schools.

Four boys completed this project because of things they did around the house and school, such as mending steps, windows, etc, bringing in fuel and water and keeping his own room straight.

C. Other Activities

Two girls and Home Agent attended the State 4-H Short Course. Part of the expenses were paid by the County Home Demonstration Committee. One girl sang a solo on talent night.

Three boys, eight girls, a man leader and the Home Agent attended 4-H Camp at Holiday Lake. One girl was chosen lesser chief.

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Four clubs sponsored radio shows to make money to send girls to camp. Seven of the girls and two of the boys got part way paid by this method. They used money left over for a picnic.

The Ruckersville Junior 4-H Club had a picnic and swim at Cason's pond. Two leaders attended .

The Ruckersville Senior Club had a picnic in Charlottesville and saw a movie afterwards. One leader drove her car.

Geer, Celt, Stanardsville Group 1 and 2, 3 and 4, Dyke, and High Top had wainer roasts in May along with the school picnic. Most of the expense was paid by 4-H money. Members made money by selling greeting cards, soup, flavoring, pop corn, and sponsoring a radio show.

Stanardsville Senior Club made head bands for the American Legion. These head bands are to be used when the veterans sell food at an event they sponsor.

#### D. Leadership

The Presidents of the Ruckersville Senior and Stanardsville Senior Clubs really showed leadership ability in the way the meetings were conducted and the way the program was carried out.

Other officers of other clubs also functioned as required,

The adult leaders held special meetings with project groups. The club members felt free to go to these leaders when a

problem arose.

All clubs had a sponsor. This sponsor reminded members of meetings, helped with parliamentary procedure and helped with record keeping.

Other activities of leaders is given under Project Work.

VI. Work with Other Agencies

The Professional Workers' Council meets every first Monday in the month. This group consists of Farm and Home Agents, Soil Conservation Workers, School Superintendent and Principal, Welfare Superintendent, Ministers from the Methodist, Baptist, Episcopal and Church of the Brethern, the AAA Clerk, the Veterans on the Job Instructor in Agriculture and the R. E. A. representative.

The Home Agent served as Secretary. All meetings were held in her office.

The Professional Workers' discussed problems of the County people and discussed ways of helping with these problems. Recommended practices are then taken to the people either at group meetings, by individual contact or by letter.

The Home Agent served as recreation leader of the P. T. A. Games were played under her direction five times. The Home Agent attended the executive board meetings.

The Home Agent served as judge at a stylic dress revue

of the Southern States. She attended the Stanardsville  
Flanning Board Meeting and supper.

The Agent attended the bank meeting held in Culpeper,  
in November.

The Poultry Specialist was secured to talk to the  
veterans in training in Agriculture. He discussed with them  
poultry raising on the farm.

VII. Evaluation of 1948 Home Demonstration Program

The Home Demonstration program has served the past  
year as an informing agency for approved practices. The  
Agent and leaders got the newer views and kept the homemaker  
informed. Club members told the Agent that neighbors who do  
not go to club meetings for one reason or another want to  
know what happened. The 52 that reported on this gave 298  
families information obtained at club meetings.

The telephone is used more. Two hundred eight  
telephone calls were made in 1948 compared to 96 in 1945,  
107 in 1946 and 114 in 1947.

Three thousand one hundred ten bulletins were distributed  
as compared to 1,176 in 1947, 2,422 in 1946.

Electricity was secured this year in several neighborhoods.  
The need for information on how to best use it and the types of  
equipment to buy was a great need this year. Information on  
lamp making and cord replacement was a great help.

The Agent felt that more leadership was shown by club  
officers and other leaders. If the job was assigned, it was

done to the best of the ability of the club member.

Eighteen meetings with an attendance of 206 were held this year without the Agent and 37 demonstrations were given.

In 1947, ten meetings were held without the Agent with an attendance of 130 and 22 demonstrations were given by project leaders.

The program will be much stronger in 1949 due to this leadership.

The Home Agent often acts as a clearing house for other agencies. The opinion of the Agent is usually accepted. The T. B. Association meets in the Home Agent's Office. The Cancer Chairman asked for the clubs to sponsor the drive. Notice of events to be sponsored by different groups are announced at H. D. Club meetings.

The demonstrations this year on project work, were timely and helpful.