

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

COUNTY EXTENSION WORK

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

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1959

Henry
County

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
HIGHLIGHTS OF 1959-----	1
THE COUNTY SITUATION-----	2
COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAM - ADULT	
Organization	
County Home Demonstration Club Committee-----	3
General Interest Committee - "Ornamental Horticulture"-----	4
Subject Matter and Special Emphasis Areas.	
Foods and Nutrition.	
Selecting and Cooking Low Cost Cuts of Meat-----	5
Scientific Nibbling-----	6
Use of Cottage Cheese-----	7
Simple Desserts-----	7
Table Setting and Table Etiquette-----	8
House Furnishings.	
Selection and Use of Household Accessories-----	9
Restoring Old Picture Frames-----	10
Clothing.	
Posture and the Selection of Foundation Garments--	10
Use of Personal Accessories-----	11
Crafts.	
Crafts for Children-----	12
Family Life.	
Federation Program of Work-----	13
Other Activities.	
Outstanding Home Demonstration Community Projects-	17

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
County Home Demonstration Club Objectives-----	17
National Home Demonstration Week-----	18
Achievement Program -----	19
Urban Work-----	20
COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAM - YOUTH	
Organisation.	
County Council-----	20
All Stars-----	21
Project Work -----	21
So You'd Like to Sew-----	22
Housekeeping-----	22
Other Activities.	
Camps -----	23
Older 4-H Camp -----	23
SCOPE OF WORK-----	23
Informing the Public -----	24
LEADERSHIP	
Home Demonstration Club Leadership-----	25
4-H Club Leadership-----	26
Leadership Activities and Accomplishments of an Outstanding Family-----	26
FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATION-----	28
Public Relations-----	29
Professional Improvement-----	29
THE LOOK AHEAD-----	30

HIGHLIGHTS OF 1939

A look backward over the past year brings memories of happy times together. Since family life was the theme, it afforded the new agents an opportunity to get acquainted with the members of the home demonstration clubs and their families. Christmas socials and summer picnics carried the theme that the family that plays together stays together. Family life was stressed specifically in meeting the needs of the home and physical needs of family members.

I. The County Situation.

Henry County is in the Southern Piedmont Section of Virginia. The county has 385 square miles with a total population in 1950 of 31,219; 8,277 (26.5%) are rural farm people, 19,321 (62.5%) are rural non-farm people, and 3,421 (11%) are urban people. The topography is rolling since the county is located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

The population shows a definite trend toward a decrease in the number of farms. From 1950 to 1954, there was a 9% decrease. Only 15% of the county's farmers in 1954 were full-time farmers. Their average income was \$2,341. The principal agricultural products are bright tobacco and cattle, both dairy and beef. The general trend seems to be a gradual shifting from tobacco growing toward livestock farming.

Henry County is highly industrialized. It is the leading furniture manufacturing county in Virginia. One of du Pont's largest rayon producing plants is located just outside the city of Martinsville. In Fieldale, the Fieldcrest Mills manufacture towels and other terry cloth items. The furniture industry is centered mainly in the Bassett - Stanleytown area although there are several plants in the city of Martinsville. Several small knitting mills are located throughout the city and county.

The largest single factor affecting the home demonstration club program in the county is the large percentage of women employed. Approximately one-third of the women have full-time employment. Therefore, over one-half of the home demonstration

clubs meet at night. Many leaders are unable to attend the training meetings and must be trained individually.

Eight elementary and three high schools are located in the county for white students. There are three elementary and one high school for white students in the city of Martinsville. The schools seem to be adequate to handle the number of pupils in the area.

Public utilities cover the entire area. However, the majority of residents in the county are on ten party telephone lines. Health and medical facilities are minimum. There is only one small hospital. Residents travel to Roanoke, Danville, Richmond, or Charlottesville in Virginia and to Winston Salem or Durham in North Carolina for specialized medical care.

A portion of Fairy Stone State Park is located in the north western tip of the county. This site in addition to some facilities at Philpott Dam provide the only public recreation areas provided for county citizens.

The major shopping area is located in the city of Martinsville. Adequate facilities are found here for most needs of the county residents.

II. County Extension Program - Adult.

A. Organization.

1. County Home Demonstration Club Committee.

This committee is composed of the officers of the Henry County Home Demonstration Advisory Board (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Federation Program of

Work Chairman) and two officers (President and Program of Work Chairman) from each of the twenty-one home demonstration clubs.

The function of this committee is to formulate all plans of the county home demonstration club program and to assist the agents in carrying out these plans. One meeting was held in the spring for the purpose of developing the county program for the following year. This included the selection of topics for monthly demonstrations, the federation program of work, and county objectives. In the fall, the county advisory board met to transact necessary business and to formulate plans for the Achievement Program and Luncheon.

Each county club pays dues of five dollars to the County Advisory Board. This money is used to pay all expenses of leader training meetings. A county delegate to the Institute of Rural Affairs and the Annual Meeting of the Virginia Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs was sponsored by the committee.

2. General Interest Committee. - "Ornamental Horticulture"

The committee is composed of nine members representing the various geographic areas of the county.

A planning meeting was held in the fall of 1959. A leader training meeting was held in February for home demonstration and garden club leaders. Dr. Richard Gruenhagen, Extension Ornamental Plant Pathologist, and

Mr. John Ames, Associate Extension Entomologist, presented an interesting program and then answered questions.

Mr. A. G. Smith presented two programs in two areas of the county - Bassett and Fieldale.

B. Subject Matter and Special Emphasis Areas

1. Foods and Nutrition.

a. Selecting and Cooking Low Cost Cuts of Meat.

The rising cost of meats in the retail markets prompted the request for this meeting. Homemakers realized that many cuts of meat were available at a lower cost. However, they were not familiar with the proper cooking methods for these cuts. Even when cost was not an important factor, the homemaker was interested in adding variety to her menu by the addition of these meats and meat dishes.

The Extension personnel through the use of recipe bulletins and a leader training meeting were able to teach both members and leaders the necessary information for improving and varying diets by increasing the amount of protein consumed in the form of meats.

The Associate Extension Food Specialist conducted the leader training meeting. The power company furnished their building and equipment for the leader training meeting. Commercial leaflets were used as supplemental information. Leaders conducted all but one of the meetings.

Improved menus and diets have been reported by over half of the total club membership as a result of this demonstration. Also, the members' requests for these meals have resulted in more of the low cost cuts of meat appearing in local markets rather than being offered only as ground meats.

2. Scientific Nibbling.

As a result of the information from a recent food survey, the women were aware of the great amount of food consumed by the average individual in the form of a snack, a between-meals consumption. The club members were concerned about the fact that much of this food was in the form of "hollow calories" and was not adding to the daily nutritive requirements of the individual.

An attempt was made to furnish the club members with recipes and ideas for nibbles which were rich in nutritive value yet simple and easy to prepare.

The Associate Extension Food Specialist conducted the leader training meeting at the local power company auditorium. Recipes were distributed.

The majority of club members report that they are aware of the "hollow calorie" now. They are attempting to provide their families with nutritious snack foods which will make a contribution to their daily nutritive requirements.

c. Use of Cottage Cheese.

The lack of calcium in the diets of the majority of families prompted the request for additional methods of including this essential nutrient in the diet. Addition of cottage cheese to the diet was selected as the form most overlooked by county homemakers.

Informing the women of the nutritive value of cottage cheese and how it can add to their daily requirement of protein as well as calcium was the primary goal of this demonstration. Additional methods of serving cottage cheese were introduced to club members.

The Associate Extension Food Specialist conducted the leader training meeting at the power company auditorium in Pielale. Recipes were distributed for use of leaders and members.

Over one-half of the club members report regular use of these recipes in their menus since this demonstration was held in their club. Therefore, it is felt that their diets have definitely been supplemented with essential nutrients.

d. Simple Desserts.

In a county where about one-third of the women are employed, time is an important consideration in any program. This is true when the question of food

preparation is raised. Even though the women work away from home they enjoy entertaining. Therefore, the interest was in simple desserts which could be prepared in a minimum amount of time or a day or more in advance.

Many types of simple desserts were presented to the members. Therefore, it was easy to find some type which would be acceptable to their situation. It is a goal of the working women to continue to be a gracious hostess, as well as an efficient homemaker.

The leader training meeting was conducted by the Associate Extension Food Specialist at the power company auditorium. Recipes were distributed for the use of members and leaders.

Improved methods of making simple desserts were reported by the members. Many women reported serving more homemade desserts since learning easier methods of preparing tasty treats.

e. Table Setting and Table Etiquette.

There were requests from the women for a program on table setting and table etiquette which would provide a basic knowledge of these subjects. The members wanted to carry this information to their families.

The people were to raise their standards concerning table manners and setting. Self-confidence is built by increased knowledge of correct manners.

The home demonstration agent held the leader training meeting at a community building. The home agent wrote two leaflets for use of the leaders and for distribution to the members.

Since this is the November demonstration, results cannot be realized yet. However, the demonstrations have been very well received. Favorable comments and discussions have been heard.

2. House Furnishings.

a. Selection and Use of Household Accessories.

The increasing number of household accessories in the stores today has presented a perplexing problem for today's homemakers. The old, unused items in one's storage area presented possible accessories for use if a knowledge of arrangement was possible.

The goal of this topic was to develop an understanding and skill in the selection and arrangement of accessories, in the wise use of old and new accessories, and in the purchase of the best quality and design for the money spent.

The House Furnishings Specialist conducted the leader training meeting at a community building. The extension bulletin was used as reference material for the leaders.

Improved methods in the use and selection of accessories among the members has been achieved.

b. Restoring Old Picture Frames.

Many of the members have old picture frames in their attics or basements, as well as on their wall. The demonstration was requested to help with the restoration of old frames and thereby add new interest to the home.

The women were to learn to refinish wood and gilt picture frames. Their goal was to provide opportunity for creative activity and the personal satisfaction which accompanies such activity.

The Extension House Furnishings Specialist gave the leader training meeting at a community building in the county. This was a work meeting where frames were actually restored during the meeting. Techniques were taught which would apply to any type of frame which might be encountered in the club meeting.

This is rather early to count the results of the meeting since it was held in the clubs in September. However, several hundred frames have already been restored. It is noted that the members are more aware of the possibilities which they have right in their own homes that with a bit of time and effort might make a definite change in their room's appearance.

3. Clothing.

a. Posture and the Selection of Foundation Garments.

This dual topic was selected because of a need

of the women to understand their inter-relationship. The number of foundation garments on the market has caused a degree of confusion as to the kind needed by the individual. Posture is a subject which is alighted by too many people of all ages.

The goal of this topic was to teach members how to select the size and type of foundation garment required, to recognize a good fit, to know how to care for the garment, and to study what constitutes good posture and what causes poor posture.

The Assistant Clothing Specialist trained the leaders at a meeting in February. Both phases of the demonstration were covered adequately. The leaders were able to give excellent demonstrations. Leaders were given leaflets on posture. An Extension publication was available for distribution to the members on the correct selection and care of foundation garments.

All members report that they are more keenly aware of their posture and its defects. They are attempting to correct their poor posture habits. As they purchase new foundation garments, they report using the information learned from this demonstration. Information on proper care of the garments was put into use immediately.

b. Use of Personal Accessories.

This demonstration came about after the club members reported that they were confused as to the proper selection of accessories for use on various occasions.

The goal of this demonstration was to make the members aware of the selection of accessories from the standpoint of what they do for an outfit and for the individual and the achieving of a unified look by combining accessories properly.

The Assistant Clothing Specialist presented the information to the leaders at a meeting held in a local church. Extension leaflets were distributed for use of the leaders and members. The questionnaire of the scoring of an outfit was a very popular item in the demonstration.

Since this demonstration was held in April, members report that they are more conscious of their accessories, and are more aware of the fact that other items than jewelry and hats are accessories. They report that they are more confident of their personal appearance since they are able to know that they are combining accessories correctly.

4. Crafts.

a. Crafts for Children.

This demonstration was requested for several reasons. The members wanted the information for use in Vacation Bible Schools, with their own children, and with their grandchildren.

The goal was to provide information and instruction on crafts which might be done by a child either alone or in a group.

The Extension Rural Arts Specialist held this leader training meeting in a community building. The morning session was spent teaching theory and giving demonstrations to the leaders present. The afternoon was devoted to making of demonstration materials by the leaders for their own use. The leaders report that they made additional materials after getting home and securing additional materials.

The results of this demonstration and leader training meeting have been far reaching. The information was carried to club members. From there, the information went to church groups, to scout meetings, and to various other groups, both organized and unorganized. Therefore, it is believed that through this type of program family life was promoted by providing a creative activity for the younger members of the family without too much expense.

5. Family Life.

a. Federation Program of Work.

This program was inaugurated in 1938 at the request of members for help in the most important phase of their home life. They felt a need for knowing how to get along with others irregardless of age.

The county objectives were:

- (1) Understanding elders and including them in family life and assisting them with their hobbies.

- (2) Encouraging mothers to provide pre-school children with playmates in order that they will be better adjusted when entering school.
- (3) Welcoming and visiting newcomers in their community.
- (4) Working together as a family in civic, church, and home life to prevent juvenile delinquency.

There was no leader training meeting held this year for the Federation Program of Work. Mr. George Blume, Assistant Extension Sociologist, trained the leaders last year. At that time, it was felt that sufficient material was given to leaders that they might carry on the program for two years. However, it is realized now that this was a mistake. Many of the leaders were not the same as those trained. The materials were lost. No definite program was set up for each month's program. Therefore, some did not take initiative enough to do a good job of planning a few minutes' program for each month.

The leaders who carried on the program monthly did an excellent job. Their programs were varied and interesting to all members in attendance. It was felt that many problems were solved by open discussions which followed the monthly topic selected by the club chairman.

"Crafts for Children" a delightful, dramatic demonstration, given by leaders in all twenty-one home demonstration clubs in Henry County, was considered by most

club members as the outstanding demonstration of the year in both interest and information. This demonstration added much to the Federation Program of Work -- Family Life.

Most of the home demonstration club members in Henry County are young homemakers. The majority have children of their own. Many of them teach Bible School and Sunday School and work with scouts or other civic organizations involved with children throughout the county. Many of the older club members have grandchildren or earn some of their spending money by babysitting with children in their neighborhood. This demonstration filled a need in the lives of all of the women to assist in their relationships with children.

Miss Catherine Peery, Extension Rural Arts Specialist, gave the leader training meeting. It was designed to develop a good imagination in children; to keep children busy and entertained; to help children make something pretty; to encourage children to think and to explore; and to develop worthwhile skills. The leaders were taught to plan a definite place for children to work and arrange to take care of the materials. It was stressed that children should be encouraged in their efforts toward artistic expression, but that they would not all develop into artists.

Many types of craft articles were taught at the leader training meeting. The articles were made with common articles found around every home -- paper, glue,

paint, wire, feathers, dried flowers, spools, tin cans, etc.

Since these leaders of the home demonstration clubs are also active in other organizations, the information gained from the leader training meeting has spread throughout the county. Many churches used the information in their Vacation Bible Schools this past summer. Brownie Troops and Cub Scout Packs have used the information in several areas. Children throughout Henry County and the city of Martinsville have enjoyed making toys for themselves and have derived hours of entertainment and happy relationships with their family and friends in the process.

Home Demonstration Club members were amazed with the many toys children can make from common household items. Many of the friends of club members have benefitted from the information.

Next summer, materials from this demonstration are going to be used in preparation of crafts materials for the 4-H campers at Holiday Lake.

It is hoped that many boys and girls will thoroughly enjoy and learn to appreciate crafts by using their time and effort in constructive crafts activity for themselves and their friends.

C. Other Activities.

1. Outstanding Home Demonstration Community Projects.

The home demonstration clubs have been responsible for collecting funds in their community for the United Fund Campaign, Mothers' March for Polio, Christmas Cheer, Cancer Drive, and Heart Fund. They have given lunches and books to needy school children. Several clubs have provided food and clothing for needy families. Money was donated to the school library by one club. All clubs have participated in serving refreshments at school PTA meetings. The clubs have assisted the Red Cross with work at the Veteran's Hospital in Salem in various ways - baking 2,500 cookies, making 50 "ditty bags", dyeing 150 Easter eggs, and donating 25 birthday gifts. Several clubs held fund raising dinners and bake sales to benefit the community buildings and volunteer fire departments.

2. County Home Demonstration Club Objectives:

The objectives dealt mainly with the Federation Program of Work, Family Life.

Aim - To stimulate interest in and understanding of the importance of a satisfactory relationship between family members.

1. To understand ourselves as parts of this satisfactory family living.
2. To understand small children and the part they play in the family group.

3. To understand teen-agers and the part they play in the family group.

County Objectives -

1. Understanding elders and including them in "family life", assisting them with their hobbies.
2. Encourage mothers to provide pre-school children with playmates in order that they will be better adjusted when entering school.
3. Welcome and visit new comers in your community.
4. Work together as a family in civic, church, and home life to prevent juvenile delinquency. Sixty Henry County youths faced trial in Juvenile court in the past year.

Long Time Goal - "Health and Safety"

1. To acquire knowledge concerning existing health facilities and conditions in our county and community and to use and help improve them.
 2. To study mental health.
 3. Periodic physical check-ups - chest x-rays - cancer examinations - better nutrition.
 4. You have a responsibility for the safety of yourself, your family, and your community in the home and on the highway.
3. National Home Demonstration Week.

Feature articles appeared in the local newspaper

each day during National Home Demonstration Week. Both local radio stations carried information on the local news program. The home demonstration agent presented a program on both local radio stations devoted to the observance.

The District IV Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs Annual Meeting was held during the week. Sixty women from Henry County attended the meeting in Rocky Mount.

One club reported a special observance. The Spencer Home Demonstration Club attended church in a body for four Sundays in May, leaving Mother's Day for observance as a family. There are four churches in the community and so the club attended a different church each Sunday. This was reported as one of the most meaningful experience of the year by this club.

4. Achievement Program.

The Henry County Home Demonstration Achievement Program was held on October 2nd. Miss Lucy Blake, Assistant Director of Extension, made an inspiring talk to the group on "The Scope of Home Demonstration Work." Twenty clubs were represented at the meeting. About one hundred and forty-five were present. Mrs. Cecil Doss of Franklin County, Chairman of District IV, Virginia Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, presented the awards for the Scrapbook Contest, an annual competitive contest among the various clubs in the county.

D. Urban Work.

One home demonstration club is organized within the city limits of Martinsville. When this club was organized, the area was in the county. Their program is identical to the rest of the clubs.

The majority of Henry County's families are rural non-farm. Therefore, although the area is not incorporated into cities, there is very little farm population. So, the home demonstration club program is suited to urban women as well as the county women.

The general interest committee on Ornamental Horticulture meets the needs of many urban women.

III. County Extension Program - Youth

A. Organization.

1. County Council.

Our 4-H Council was established in the following manner. Each school with more than one club set up their individual council. The officers of these councils represented the school councils forming the county council. Each school council had an equal vote. In those schools with only one club, their officers were members of the county council. The schools with only one club were all high school clubs.

One meeting was held by the county council with about 75% of the members present.

2. The following goals were established:

- (a) Have 100% project completion.
- (b) Have a county-wide 4-H picnic.
- (c) Encourage higher percent of boys and girls of age to enroll in 4-H Club.
- (d) Secure adult 4-H leaders.
- (e) Participate in district and state contests.
- (f) Encourage members to stay in 4-H work longer.
- (g) Fifty boys and fifty girls to attend district 4-H Camp.
- (h) Encourage members from ages 14 - 21 to attend Older Youth Camp.
- (i) Encourage members from ages 14 - 21 to attend State 4-H Short Course.
- (j) Encourage members from ages 18 - 20 to attend YMW Camp at Virginia Beach.

3. All Stars.

The All-Stars met to recommend and approve the selection of 1959 All Star candidates. They entered a booth at the Henry County Fair. This group was not very active this year. The majority of members were away from the county attending school and working.

B. 4-H Project Work.

The majority of the projects were started prior to the present home demonstration agent's arrival in the county. The girls were given their choice of several projects. Then, one project was selected to be emphasized in the club meeting throughout the year.

1. So You'd Like to Sew.

This project was the most popular one in the county. All fourth and fifth grade girls, as well as some sixth and seventh graders, carried this project.

Since these were school clubs meeting for a limited time, it was felt that this project offered more real help and information to the young girls than any other single project. They learned the basic skills of using a needle, following directions, and cutting by a pattern.

Demonstrations were given at each meeting and finished articles were displayed. At the final meeting of the year, the girls brought all of their articles for display.

The girls were enthusiastic about the project. An interest in sewing was created in these 4-H members. It is believed that they will continue their clothing project work and eventually will be capable of constructing their own clothes.

2. Housekeeping.

It was recognized that the majority of the girls had the responsibility of caring for their own room. Many have partial responsibility for the cleanliness of the remainder of the house. The fact that they were able to do the job effectively was not the concern of the home agent, but efficiency was her concern.

Through discussions and demonstrations, efficient cleaning methods and simple construction of housekeeping articles were taught.

Members reported being able to do their work in less time and with less effort now.

C. Other Activities.

1. Camps.

Forty-nine Henry County 4-H girls attended district 4-H camp. While at camp these girls and were boys were instructed in crafts, swimming, lifesaving, leadership, and general recreational activities. It was one of the largest attended camps with much interest and enthusiasm being shown in camp activities.

2. Older 4-H Camp.

Three girls attended a Senior 4-H Camp for the district at Virginia Beach.

IV. Scope of Work

A.

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
No. H. D. Clubs	22	23	24	23	21
Membership	464	515	540	507	393
No. 4-H Clubs	27	28	34	35	42
Membership	925	825	808	849	828
No. YH Clubs	1	1	1	1	1
Membership	12	12	12	16	16
No. Community Clubs	5	11	11	10	10
Membership	381	345	275	368	236
No. General Interest Committees	0	0	1	1	1
No. Farm & Home Dev. Families	0	2	6	10	10
No. Other families reached	806	912	1160	1254	683
No. Different families reached	850	915	997	1013	1202

B.

The majority of the Henry County Home Demonstration Club women inform their neighbors, relatives, and friends of the activities of the clubs and new material available to the public by contacting the home demonstration agent's office. Information they feel is vitally important or interesting is also included in their conversations with their friends.

The home demonstration agent has a radio program on station WHVA every Wednesday morning. Those who listen learn home demonstration club news, the work of the home agent, and information on timely home economics topics. Radio Station WHEE has an agriculture and home economics program on each Sunday afternoon. Each member of the county extension staff takes part in presenting a program on alternate weeks. Up-to-date information concerning topics of interest to every member of the family are presented by the home demonstration agents.

Newspaper reporters and editors in Martinsville and Bassett are cooperative in printing information concerning home demonstration work. Each club has a reporter. If any meeting of importance takes place concerning home demonstration club work, a photographer takes pictures for the paper. The Martinsville Bulletin has a circulation of over 12,000 copies. This is an excellent way to reach people. A regular column is

not written by the county staff.

Many people have found it more convenient to call the home agent by telephone rather than ask her to make an individual home visit. Office calls help individuals to understand the county situation as well as to receive the information desired.

By using these methods, the work of the home demonstration agents is understood by the majority of the people in Henry County.

V. Leadership.

1. Home Demonstration Club Leadership.

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
No. organizational leaders	110	115	149	143	133
No. project leaders (subject matter)	281	278	222	227	264
No. Federation program of work chairmen	22	23	25	24	21
No. program development leaders	22	23	24	23	21
No. result demonstrators	10	42	23	25	0
No. training meetings by specialists	5	3	4	4	9
No. training meetings by dist. agents	2	2	2	2	0
No. training meetings by agents	7	8	12	2	2
No. training meetings by others	0	0	1	1	1
Attendance at all training meetings	215	284	263	294	358
No. meetings held without an agent	164	170	132	130	117
No. meetings leaders assisted	13	13	6	27	10
Demonstrations by leaders	193	226	213	193	231
Talks and discussions by leaders	368	373	345	382	322

2. 4-H Club Leadership.

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
No. Club Officers	189	168	170	190	196
No. adult project leaders	8	10	8	9	3
No. junior project leaders	16	20	22	18	0
No. result demonstrators	18	17	23	14	0
No. training meetings by agent	7	11	8	10	0
Total attendance at ldr. tr. meetings	15	18	17	21	0
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	0	0	0	4	4
No. club mtgs. held by ldr. w/out agent	28	32	22	6	5
No. additional club meetings at which leaders assisted	1	1	1	1	1
No. demonstrations given by adult ldrs.	51	40	42	29	30
No. demonstrations given by junior leaders	53	67	56	31	6
No. demonstrations given by junior leaders	18	22	16	23	5

B. Leadership Activities and Accomplishments of an Outstanding Family.

Bill, age 4, and Bobby, age 7, feel they are quite fortunate in having Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Phillips as their parents.

Mrs. Phillips derives much satisfaction in doing things for others. As a crafts leader in the Rivermont Home Demonstration Club, she has proven to be an outstanding leader and club member.

After taking instruction in crafts for children given by Miss Catherine Feery, Extension Rural Arts Specialist from V.P.I., Mrs. Phillips was asked to give a training program for workers in the Daily Vacation Bible Schools of churches in the Henry County Baptist Association. She serves as superintendent of the Primary Department in the Sunday School of Kearfott Memorial Baptist Church and this year served as principal of their Vacation Bible School.

Many city and county churches borrowed the many handmade toys that Mrs. Phillips has made. They proved as popular among the children in the Bible Schools as to her own children.

Among the attractive articles which she made and demonstrates to the club women in the county, her friends and neighbors are Halloween masks from paper bags, flowers from egg cartons, a TV set made in a box, bird feeder from pie pans and juice cans, decorated jewelry boxes with egg shells and paint, and Indian headbands from corrugated card board and chicken feathers.

"All of these crafts prove one doesn't have to spend money - only time and imagination - to furnish children with toys that will give them hours of entertainment. Most of the toys only take five minutes to make" according to our outstanding homemaker.

Mrs. Phillips helped to organize the Rivermont Home Demonstration Club in September 1956 and served as its first president for two years. She is currently serving as Vice President of the Henry County Advisory Board of the Home Demonstration Clubs. Her leadership as Family Life Federation Goal Chairman of the Rivermont Home Demonstration Club has been outstanding both in selection of material to be presented and in its method of presentation.

Mr. Phillips is an enthusiastic booster of the Extension program. He is a registered clerk for the United States Post Office in Martinsville. He is a leader, too, and serves as Deacon and Treasurer in the church in Rivermont Heights.

Several Home Demonstration Clubs have asked Mrs. Phillips to give the demonstration "Crafts for Children" at their club meetings. Her information is freely given and always well

received. Most of the club women have enjoyed the new approach in making children happy and the close relationship it achieves for home and family life.

VI. A. For Special Consideration.

The leadership in the home demonstration clubs in Henry County has been outstanding. The foundation for this leadership was laid in the past by the home demonstration agent who is now retired. However, this year the full benefits of excellent leadership was realized. In the twelve months covered by this report, only fourteen demonstrations were given by the agents. All cases where the agent was asked to do the demonstration were a result of illness to the trained leader or to some member of her family.

If a leader is unable to attend a leader training meeting, she is trained individually. She may come to the home agent's office for this information or the agent may go to her home. It is not necessary to do very much individual training since about 80% of the clubs are represented at training meetings.

Leaders are proud of this accomplishment. Eleven of the twenty-one clubs had no assistance from the Home Demonstration Agents in giving demonstrations. The feeling of accomplishment of a job well done is reward enough for these leaders. They have realized that the extension program is of greater benefit to them when they accept the philosophy of "Help Others Help Themselves".

B. Public Relations.

The relationship among county staff members has been good. The secretary has been informed at all times of the home demonstration agents' itinerary and of the program. The agents working with the 4-H program have held a conference following each day's meetings. Solutions to problems which have arisen during the day are discussed and strengths noted.

The relations with the general public have been excellent. Fortunately, this county has had a series of good home demonstration agents. Therefore, when an agent mentions her title, doors are opened to her.

The agents have been in constant contact with the members of the County Board of Supervisors. These officials have been informed of the program - its progress and changes.

Financial support is given the program by commercial concerns whenever and wherever needed.

Cooperation with other professional workers in the county and city is excellent. Whenever the agent is called upon for help or calls upon others, assistance is freely given.

C. Professional Improvement.

The home demonstration agent attended the House Furnishings Workshop held in High Point, North Carolina, in June. Both agents attended the two day training meeting on "Getting the Most out of Your Sewing Machine." The home demonstration agent and assistant home demonstration agent attended the Communications Training held in early 1959 and the Annual Extension Conference

held in August. Other training meetings held in West Central District were attended by the staff members at that particular time.

Professional books are constantly used for resource material. The publications of V.F.I., U.S.D.A., and ANEA are read for information applicable to the present and future county program. Professional publications are read for the information they contain.

The home demonstration agent is a member of VHDAA, HHDAA, ANEA, and VHEA. She attended the VHDAA and VHEA meetings this year.

VII. The Look Ahead.

The adult program in 1959 has met the objectives and goals set for it. The goal for the coming year will be "to make the best better".

However, the youth program leaves much to be desired. It is the hope of the Home Demonstration Agent that within the next year progress will be made toward the setting up of several additional girls project clubs in the various areas of the county. The high school 4-H program for girls is negligible. The pilot club set up in the summer of 1959 has proved successful.