

PLAN OF WORK 1959

for

GREENE COUNTY

VIOLET NAVY - - - COUNTY HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT

1959 PLAN OF WORK

I. THE COUNTY SITUATION IN WORKING OUT THE 1959 PROGRAM

Greens County with an area of one hundred and fifty three square miles lies in the north-central part of the Piedmont Plateau, with the Blue Ridge Mountains on its western border. In 1954 land in farms totaled 67,311 acres, 68.7 percent of the county's area of 97,920 acres. According to the 1954 census of Agriculture there were 662 farms which averaged 101.7 acres in size and \$5,490. in value of land buildings. The number of farms dropped nearly one third since 1935 when the peak of farms was enumerated. Land in farms now is about 20 percent less than in 1935.

The topography in the central and eastern part of the county is rolling to hilly with elevations from 600 to 1000 feet above sea level, but in the western and northern sections the land is steep, and only the coves and foothills are suitable for agriculture. Elevations of the foothills and mountain ridges range from 100 to 3500 feet. Temperatures vary widely, but average about 34 degrees in January and seventy-five in July. The frost free growing season averages around one hundred and seventy-five days, extending from April 26 to October 18. Annual precipitation averages about 43 inches.

About fourteen thousand acres of the Shenandoah National Park are located in the county.

Agriculture is the leading industry according to the 1955 agricultural census. Crops supply about 10 percent of the cash income, livestock and poultry about eighty-eight percent and Forestry 2 percent. Of the total livestock and poultry income, dairying accounts for 10 percent, poultry 50 percent, beef-cattle, sheep and hogs 25 percent.

More than a fourth of all farms are less than thirty acres in size. About 60 percent of the farms are classed as residential or part-time.

About eighty percent of the county is rural farm. One half of the farms get more income off the farm than on the farm. As stated before, about sixty percent of the farms are part-time. Consequently a great number of people work in adjoining counties to supplement the farm income. Many commute daily to jobs in Charlottesville, Orange, Crozet, Elkton and Madison. A compressor station of the Virginia Gas Transmission Corporation near Stanardsville employs about fifteen. Some are professionally employed, in the county or adjoining counties. The number of homemakers working is still increasing. The median income for Greene County is \$1,720.

The median school years completed are 5.6 for male and 7.1 for female. The number of high school graduates going to college is increasing each year. Approximately one-third of the children eligible for membership in the 4-H clubs are enrolled.

The 1950 census reports a population slightly under 5,000, with about thirteen percent colored.

There is one high school in the county, located at Stanardsville; three elementary schools, located at Stanardsville, Ruckersville and Dyke; one Mission School, located at Wyatt Mountain; and the Blue Ridge School, located near Dyke- operated through the Episcopal Church.

There are no railroads in the county and bus facilities are limited. The greater number of families have either a truck or car.

Recreation facilities in the county are limited, being sponsored mainly through the school and church. Some depend on near-by counties for some recreation.

## II. COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAM - ADULT

### A. Over-All Program

#### 1. County Agricultural Extension Service Board

The County Extension Agents will call a meeting representative of the Agricultural, Home Economics, Youth, and General Interest Phases of the County Extension Program early in 1959 to set-up long time goals.

#### 2. Home Economics Council - None

#### 3. General Interest Committees

The Youth Committee, which started in 1957 will continue to work on the problems encountered in working with the 4-H group. Two meetings will be held during the year; one to set up some ways of making the program interesting, attractive, and challenging. The other to report on progress and revise, if necessary, the methods used.

Some of the musical minded people in the home demonstration clubs

have wanted to organize a community choir. Such a group would draw quite a number of non-club members. An opportunity for such an organized group has presented itself already. Complete plans for organizing such a group has not been worked out. It has been pointed out that through such an organized group a great number of people could be reached who are not members of an organized club. Special music could be furnished on many occasions in the various churches in the county.

Since there are a number of young married women staying in the county, with the majority of them working away from home and their needs quite different from the long established homemakers there is a possibility that in some way their needs can be met by special meetings. Club members have given the names of some of these homemakers to the agent. A Questionnaire will be sent out by the agent. From this the types of assistance to be given will be worked out.

#### 4. County Home Economics Committee

Having consulted some of the leading people in the county it seems there is a need for emphasis on nutrition and health. The committee has not been formed as yet, neither has any objectives been set-up.

#### B. Home Demonstration Club Program

The County Home Demonstration Club Committee is composed of the county officers, elected by club representatives, the individual club officers and other key people. This committee met and considered the suggestions brought in by each club program development leader.

After giving careful consideration to each request the 1959 program was planned around those which it seemed would meet the most needs.

1. Foods

Because of the changing situation in regard to so many homemakers working away from home and their participation in so many activities the homemaker finds herself in a dilemma in seeing that her family is well fed. Therefore one-third of the club calendar is devoted to foods. In this area assistance will be given on well balanced, well prepared, time saving low cost meals.

a. Monthly demonstrations will be given on the following: with leaders giving the demonstrations on the ones starred.

1. Sandwiches For Lunch and Entertaining
2. Do It Ahead Meals
3. Hearty Meals For Summer Days \*
4. Simple Inexpensive Refreshments \*

2. Management

As an outgrowth of last years study of What Becomes of Your Property and Inheritance, the homemakers were interested in going more into detail on Simple Business Facts, which would help them to manage their own affairs more wisely. They were also interested in knowing the best methods for cleaning household metals, and as a club choice Find Out What are the Best Metals for Cooking Utensils. Three of these would help the homemaker in planning to spend her money wisely. Knowing the best methods of controlling household pests will save time, energy, and money.

a. Monthly Demonstrations

1. Simple Business Facts Women Should Know
2. Cleaning Household Metals
3. Best Metals For Cooking Utensils
4. No Bugs - No Pests in the Home

b. Special Interest Meetings

A Special Interest Meeting was set-up on  
What To Know About Insurance.

3. House Furnishings

By improving the lighting in any particular area of the home the whole family is helped. To help the homemaker develop skills in doing many of the jobs herself not only saves her money, but also gives her a feeling of satisfaction that she did the job herself. Certainly improving the appearance of, and restoring good furniture is improving family living.

a. Monthly Demonstrations

Good Light For Reading and Studying

b. Special Interest

1. Chair Reseating
2. Inexpensive Decorating
  - Window treatment
  - Walls and woodwork finishes
  - Restoring Furniture and Accessories
  - Inexpensive Furniture for Furnishings

4. Home Grounds

To help the homemaker make the grounds around her home more attractive, by helping her in the selection and planting of bulbs and perennials.

a. Monthly Demonstration

Selecting and Planting Bulbs and Perennials.

5. Crafts

Many of the homemakers help with the Bible Schools during the summer. They requested help on crafts that would be useful and something the children would be proud of.

a. Monthly Demonstration

Entertaining Small Children with Crafts.

C. Federation Program of Work

To help the Federation Program of Work Chairman with their duties the agent will provide them with materials that fit in the objectives set up on Family Life for the 1959 program. She will also call the club chairmen together to discuss Social Courtesies with them.

To encourage wholesome family recreation the agent will collect games and other suggestions for recreation from every source available. These will be passed on to the Federation Chairman and others who may have such a need. List of books that are qualified to count on a reading certificate will be given to chairmen to present to their clubs. By studying the list of books and encouraging reading for recreation it is hoped that a number of reading certificates can be given in 1959.

The club members will continue to work on safety in the home and on the highway. The Federation Chairman will devote one club discussion to safety.

An attempt will be made to get the machine to test vision distance at the county fair.

D. Other Activities

1. Club Objectives

Leaders hold three or more meetings without agent.

Members support wholeheartedly their children and neighbors children in 4-H Work.

Each club member assist one or more non-club members with some home problem.

Try to organize a club for young married women.

Each club contribute in some way to the 4-H club program in their area.

Continue to work on the jail as a community project.

Recognize club members having perfect attendance.

The club objectives, listed above, will increase the scope of work in the entire Extension Program. The agent will try to provide the necessary help in carrying out these objectives. Clubs will be asked to study the objectives and report on accomplishments at the end of the year.

2. National Home Demonstration Week

During National Home Demonstration Week, emphasis will be placed on the home demonstration program and its contributions to the homemaker.

An effort will be made to have a good attendance at the District Meeting. The work of the home demonstration club will be publicized in the local papers. The Home Demonstration Committee will be asked to plan some special observance during National Home Demonstration Week.

3. Judging Done By Local Leaders

Local leaders, having an opportunity to judge at county fairs will be encouraged to do so. This will stimulate their interest in their own county fair and serves as a tool for teaching.

4. County Fair

The county fair will take the place of an achievement day, as it will give the club members and other people in the county an opportunity to work together and display some of their work.

It is through the local papers that the public will be kept informed of the work and accomplishments of the home demonstration clubs.

III. FARM AND HOME DEVELOPMENT

The county agent and home agent worked with three families in 1958. One family has been dropped, leaving two at the present time. The agents will try to add one or two families in 1959.

Families are selected by the agents. For the most part the selection is made as a result of a request for special assistance or a home visit. Assistance will be given individually. Through home visits the agents will find out the areas where help is needed.

After finding out the problems of these families, the type of assistance given will vary with each family. Some will require more individual help than others. Bulletins and circular letters will be used in many cases to meet their needs.

The agent hopes to have one family reach the stage of having open house sometime in 1959.

IV. COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAM - YOUTH

A. Organization

1. County Youth Committee

This committee will be composed of parents and leaders, All Stars and other interested people in the county. Through this committee it is hoped that some of the problems with this age group can be solved.

2. County 4-H Council

An attempt will be made to recognize the 4-H county council. The council will consist of 4-H club officers.

3. All Stars

Since there are not enough All Stars in Greene County to organize, the agent will use them in county events, such as; achievement day programs, fair, and as leaders.

B. 4-H Project Work

1. Clothing

To teach the beginner the basic steps in sewing, and to help them acquire skills and knowledge necessary to plan, select and construct their clothing.

a. Monthly demonstrations during school club meetings.  
b. Method demonstrations on neighborhood basis  
during the summer.

- c. Parents and leaders individual assistance.  
d. Club and County Contest.  
e. Exhibits at meetings and the fair.

2. Forestry

To teach the importance of the forest to man and to help the club member identify forest trees native to their locality.

- a. Discussions, films and demonstrations will be used at club meetings held at school.  
b. Field Trips.  
c. Collection of leaves.  
d. Exhibiting notebook made at fair or achievement day.

3. Ironing

To teach the 4-H member the quickest and easiest ways of ironing to save time and energy. To teach proper procedure to follow in ironing the various materials and garments. To help her in taking care of her own clothes as well as those of her family.

- a. Monthly demonstrations and discussions to club school groups.  
b. Member participating at club meetings.  
c. County Contest.  
d. Parent or leader assisting in summer.

4. Electricity

To teach the 4-H member the importance of electricity in the home and on the farm. To teach them how to improve the lighting in their homes.

a. Monthly discussions and demonstrations at club meetings.

b. Club and county contests.

c. Exhibits at fair.

5. Room Improvement

To teach the club member how to make her own room more attractive and convenient by rearranging the furniture, making inexpensive accessories, and improving the lighting of her room.

a. Monthly demonstrations

b. Contests

c. Exhibits at the fair.

C. 4-H ACTIVITIES

1. 4-H Camp

To develop within the 4-H member a deeper understanding of cooperation, leadership, sharing of responsibilities, and rural life.

a. Inform and encourage qualified club members to attend camp.

2. 4-H Short Course

To broaden the understanding of what 4-H club work means to the member, to make new friends and to become acquainted with V.P.I.

- a. Send quota to Short Course.
- b. Encourage members to participate in events that would increase quota.

3. Contests

To develop the individual in being at ease before an audience, to increase the ability to cooperate with other 4-H members, leaders, and agents and to help the 4-H member to be a better sport whether winning or losing.

- a. Club contests in each project.
- b. County contest.
- c. Give special training to any member competing in county or area contest.

4. Rural Life Sunday

To develop further the spiritual life in the individual member and to encourage participation in the Church and Its Activities.

- a. Encourage club members to attend and participate in own church activities.
- b. Publicize Rural Life Sunday and try to get each church to observe it in some way.

5. Achievement Day

To recognize and award club members for their achievements.

- a. Have an achievement day program.
- b. Publicize before and after it is held to inform the public.

c. Delegate some responsibility to as many members as possible.

D. Young Men and Women's Work

No organized group.

Work will be done on an individual basis or through special interest meetings.

V. <u>SCOPE OF WORK</u>	<u>No. in 1958</u>	<u>Goal 1959</u>
A. <u>Organization</u>		
Number of home demonstration clubs	9	10
Membership	235	245
Number of L-H Clubs	11	12
Membership	178	190
Number of young men and women's clubs	0	0
Membership	0	0
Number community improvement clubs	0	0
Membership	0	0
Number home economics committees	0	1
Number general interest committees	0	1
Number youth committees	0	1
Number other organizations	0	0
Number farm and home development families	3	5

VI. <u>PLAN FOR LEADERSHIP</u>	<u>No. in 1958</u>	<u>Goal 1959</u>
A. Over-All Program Leaders (Organizational leaders for county Extension Service Board)		<u>10</u>

<u>B. Home Demonstration Club Leadership</u>	No. in 1958	Goal 1959
Number organizational leaders	36	40
Number project leaders (subject matter)	69	70
No. Federation program of work chairmen	9	10
No. program development leaders	9	10
Number result demonstrators	10	10
Number meetings at which leaders were trained by specialist	4	4
Number meetings at which leaders were trained by district agents	1	1
Number meetings at which leaders were trained by agent	2	1
Attendance at training meetings	7	9
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	23	36
No. club meetings in which leaders assisted	15	20
Total number demonstrations given by leaders	23	30
No. talks or discussions by leaders	65	70

Plan For Training and Using All Types of Leaders in Carrying out the 1959 Program

1. Subject matter leaders will be trained by specialist in the following areas:

Crafts

Management

Foods

2. Federation Program of Work by agent

3. Program Development Leaders by agent

Leaders will be trained and be responsible for giving the demonstrations to their clubs. The agent will give any needed assistance in helping them get demonstration material or other information.

<u>C. Over-All Youth Leaders</u>	No. in 1958	Goal 1959
(Organizational leaders for county youth council)	1	1
<u>D. 4-H Club</u>	<u>No. in 1958</u>	<u>Goal 1959</u>
Number 4-H Club Officers	70	80
Number adult project leaders	10	15
Number junior project leaders	0	5
Number result demonstrators	0	3
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by specialist	0	0
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by district agent	0	0
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by agent	1	3
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by personnel in 4-H Dept.	0	0
No. meetings at which leaders were trained by others	0	1
Attendance at leader training meetings	0	10
No. 4-H leaders trained individually	6	6
No. club meetings held by leaders without agent present	3	10
No. club meetings at which leaders assisted	36	50
No. demonstrations given by adult leaders	3	10
No. demonstrations given by junior leaders	0	15

Plans For Training and Using All Types of 4-H Leaders in  
Carrying Out the 1959 Program

Project leaders will be trained by the agent. For the most part it will have to be done in small groups.

Organizational leaders or sponsors will be given the necessary information for club organizations. They will be kept posted on all club events.

VII. PLANS FOR WORKING WITH OTHER AGENCIES

A. Schools

Cooperate with schools in their activities, such as; providing an assembly program by 4-H club members; P.T.A. Programs, giving some assistance in selecting and constructing costumes for May Day, and judging the home economics fashion show.

B. Health Department

Cooperate in drives that make for better health of people in the county, such as, the dental clinic, First Aid Class, etc.

C. Welfare

Supply information requested by the Welfare Superintendent. Work with a small group wanting some assistance in Clothing Construction.

VIII. PLANS FOR DEVELOPING GOOD PUBLIC RELATIONS IN THE COUNTY

A. Co-Workers

1. Hold regular conferences with county agent on 4-H club work, farm and home development, and other phases of the program.

2. Specialist - Have all supplies suggested by the specialist assembled and ready.

Have best physical arrangements for training meetings. If possible have all leaders present and on time. Be sure leaders know what is expected of them after the training meeting. Express appreciation to leaders and specialist for their assistance.

3. District Agent

Council with district agent through conferences and letters on matters that arise from time to time.

B. General Public

1. Keep public informed on what is being done in the county.
2. Publicize meetings well in advance - Extend invitations to all at special interest meetings.
3. Recognize leaders for job done.
4. Welcome opportunities to serve and respond enthusiastically.
5. Cultivate cooperation with people.

C. Elected Representatives

1. Report to Board of Supervisors
2. Know and visit families of representatives.
3. Consult Board when necessary.

D. Commercial Interest

Work cooperatively with commercial concerns.  
Express appreciation for assistance.

E. Other Professional Workers

Have good personal relations with other professional workers. Be familiar with their program. Work cooperatively with other programs when possible.

II. PLANS FOR RECORDING RECORDS AND EVALUATING THE 1959 PROGRAM

1. Keep accurate daily and monthly records.
2. Refer to plan of work more often.
3. Check often on progress made.
4. Use leaders to help check on progress and evaluation of program.
5. Have clubs check on objectives and progress in program.
6. Take time to check on goals to see to what degree they have been reached.

X. PLANS FOR PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT

A. Organized Study

1. Schools
2. Short Courses

No plans at present.

B. Reading Professional Books and Other Publications

The agent will read as much as possible from professional magazines and publications as as to be able to give factual information on the newer methods being adapted.

The agent will purchase and read one book that will help her do a better job in the entire program.

C. Membership in Professional Organizations

Join the State and National Home Demonstration Agents Association.

Join the State and National Home Economic Association.

D. Participating in Programs and Workshops Planned by Other Organizations

The agent will take part in workshops and meetings when possible.

E. Planned Educational Trips

1. Attend State Home Economics Meetings.
2. Attend National Home Demonstration Meeting.
3. Take trip to Beltsville Experiment Station.
4. Attend National Flower Show.

XI. COOPERATIVE PLANS BY EXTENSION AGENTS IN GREENE TOWARD A UNIFIED EXTENSION PROGRAM

The Extension Workers in Greene County have met with the District Agents and discussed with them the organization of an Agricultural Extension Service Board. Each agent has met with their own commodity or other committees. A meeting will be held early in the year to set up long time goals for the county.

XII. PROBLEMS IN CARRYING OUT THE EXTENSION PROGRAM

One of the most difficult problems faced in carrying out the Extension Program is that of holding the 4-H club members, getting them to keep records, do a good job in project work and getting the club members together in summer groups, and leadership.

In solving the above problems, the agent will first of all try to make the project instruction more interesting and challenging. Solicit the aid of older club members in keeping records, after they have been helped. Try to visit 4-H members at least once. Train leaders for their

responsibilities. Make better use of available medals and awards.

Encourage members to enter contests.

Recognize leaders and 4-H members for outstanding achievement.

In the adult program the agent is faced with the increasing number of women employed outside the home. This is true of both club members and non-club members. This situation makes it impossible many times for the leaders to attend training meetings.

An effort will be made by the agent to see that leaders, who are unable to attend the initial training meeting, receive the training and information for their job. Through the Farm and Home Development Program, Special Interest, and General Interest Committees, it is hoped more people can be reached.