

4-H Participation

A mid-year report indicates that 178,563 Tar Heel boys and girls participated in the 4-H--Youth Program during the 1973-74 fiscal year.

Some 38,393 youngsters were members of community clubs and 57,196 were involved in special interest groups. The other boys and girls who took part in the 4-H program were enrolled in television classes on foods and nutrition.

N. C. 4-H Development Fund

By the end of 1974, 48 counties had reached their goals and some 37 others had made contributions raising \$163,462 in the 4-H Development Fund's drive to raise \$750,000.

Businesses, corporations and foundations have contributed \$122,521 under a special gifts program, and the 375-acre Luther Robinson property has been appraised at \$112,500.

County contributions, special gifts and appraisal value of the Robinson property bring the total amount to \$398,483 that has been received.

National Winners

North Carolina's 28-member delegation won 17 first place honors at the National Junior Horticultural Association annual meeting in Washington, D. C. in November.

At the 53rd National 4-H Congress in Chicago in December, the 38-member Tar Heel delegation won 13 scholarships valued at \$8,700. In addition, a Forsyth County 4-H member received a coveted silver tray inscribed by the President of the United States in the achievement awards program, and North Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture James A. (Jim) Graham received an alumni recognition award. A former Rowan County 4-H member, Graham was one of eight winners selected nationally.

Special Programs and Activities

Safety programs continued to be popular during the year. Some 2,203 youngsters became more safety conscious through participation in a statewide 4-H traffic safety poster contest. Seventy-two youngsters between the ages of 9 and 13 learned about bicycle rules, regulations, care and maintenance at a Pedal Power Camp at Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Camp in July. Some 6,500 youngsters in 16 counties participated in fire safety classes. They were taught by 500 volunteers.

A 4-H Energy Conservation Program reached more than 50,000 youngsters during the year. The program (1) encouraged youth to practice energy conservation measures; (2) provided them with factual information surrounding our energy needs and resources, and (3) gave them an opportunity to initiate energy conservation projects.

North Carolina 4-H members launched a drive to raise funds to purchase animals for the State Zoological Park near Asheboro.

Twenty-one counties conducted special programs during the summer for 5,080 urban boys and girls to provide action and adventure emphasis to 4-H work.

Teen organizers, volunteer leaders, and program assistants conducted the programs.

Forty-nine counties conducted Youth Looks at Aging Programs

special programs...

with the total number of youth and elders involved reaching 3,877.

Union County youngsters became more aware of alcoholism and its prevention through programs conducted by the Union County Agricultural Extension Service in cooperation with the Piedmont Mental Health Complex.

Utilizing county funds from ABC sales at 5 cents per bottle, the two organizations reached more than 2,000 youth through community 4-H clubs, youth forums, retreats, day and overnight camps, do-it-yourself projects, and mass media.

Child, Parent, and Community Program

A Child, Parent, and Community Program being conducted by North Carolina A & T State University is focusing on the social growth and development of 6 to 8 year-old youth and their parents in Greensboro.

Objectives of the CPC Program are to: provide educational experiences for the youngsters and their parents, strengthen parent-child relationships, produce awareness of community resources and assistance available, and solve community problems.

Utilizing 4-H type educational experiences, the youngsters are taught leadership development, safety, citizenship, communication skills, arts, and crafts.

Parents participate in discussions on child growth and development, nutrition, clothing, recreation, behavior and guidance.

When youngsters reach 9 years of age, they transfer into the regular 4-H program.

International Youth Programs

Three former 4-H members served as International Farm Youth Exchange (IFYE) delegates to Belgium, Jamaica and the Netherlands.

Another former 4-H'er was an International Youth Development Project delegate to Botswana, and 10 former 4-H'ers participated in a three-week caravan to England and Scotland.

IFYE delegates from Italy, the Philippines and West Germany visited in North Carolina during the year.

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4-H Agents Honored

Three North Carolina 4-H agents received distinguished service awards at the annual meeting of the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents in Wichita, Kans. They were Mrs. Sarah T. Jones, Wayne; William H. Clayton Jr., Johnston; and Rufus H. Rhyne, Stokes.

Vance County Agricultural Extension Agent Lloyd L. Peace received a 25-year certificate of service, and Guilford County 4-H Agent Richard Freeman was elected a director of the Association.