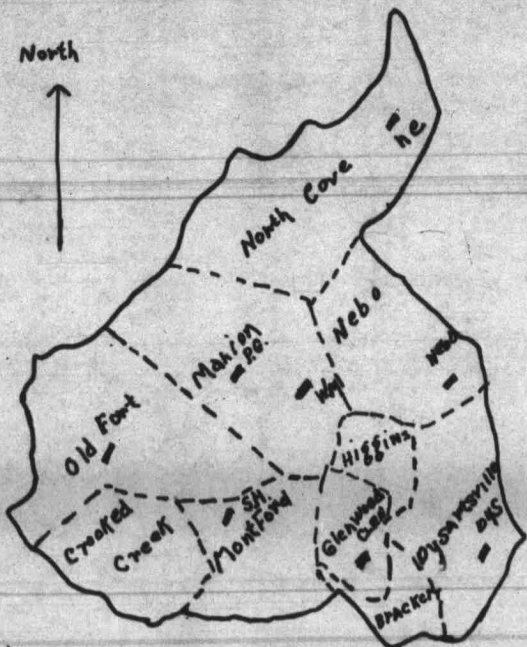


ANNUAL REPORT
OF MCDOWELL COUNTY
4-H WORK

Jean Steele

MCDOWELL COUNTY



13 4-H CLUBS — ENROLLMENT — 103

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Introduction

There are thirteen 4-H clubs in McDowell County. Eight junior and five senior. All the clubs meet in the schools. The periods are from forty minutes to one hour long. The 4-H clubs have made great progress this year, not in numbers but in results. The tendency to attend 4-H in order to get away from school has been eliminated. All members have done some project work at home this year and have shown interest at meetings.

There were one hundred and two girls and one-hundred boys enrolled in the thirteen 4-H Clubs this year.

Organization Federation

This year McDowell County had its first 4-H Achievement Day. The Home Club gave a program and Mr. Nafe, Editor of the McDowell News, gave a very appropriate and interesting talk on the importance of having an idea and using it, and of the value of completing the project they started. Achievement Certificates were presented, and all boys and girls doing credible work were presented plywood notebook backs with "4-H Club" burned on it. They were made by a Home Demonstration Club member who is a 4-H club leader.

In each notebook the following pages were enclosed.

a 4-H club schedule.

The names of all Club officers and of State Leaders

The names of all who completed the required work

The names of all Club members who are leaders for each Club.

The programs for the year: Joint Programs and Programs of work for both Junior and seniors.

Home Assignments

The contests explained briefly.

Other Activities

Achievement Day

Dress Review

Camp

Short Course

Health Contest

The last page asked for information concerning the 4-H member to be filled by him or her as a start on a 4-H record book. The questions were: name, age, address, parents name, grade, whether on farm, number of acres, when joined the 4-H, age and grade at that time, list of projects completed and work done.

County Council

The 4-H County Council meets once a month during the school year. The officers of the County Council are elected from the club officers. The County Council membership is composed of the officers from each of the thirteen clubs.

The purpose of the County Council is to transact the club business, and help the club officers to contact their clubs better. At the County Council meetings the programs for the next club meetings are given to the Vice-Presidents. The clubs having the best programs are invited to come and give the program at the County Council meeting. The honor is passed to as many clubs as give a credible program.

Club Schedule

Club Schedule	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April
Pleasant Gardens	2	7	4	2	6	3	3	7
Old Fort	3	3	5	3	2	4	4	8
West Marion	3	8	5	3	7	4	4	9
Sugar Hill	3	8	5	3	3	7	4	6
Glenwood	4	9	6	4	8	5	5	9
Febo	5	10	7	5	9	6	6	10
Dyartsville	5	10	7	5	9	6	6	10
North Cove	6	11	8	6	10	7	7	11

County Council meetings: Jan. 11; Feb. 8; March 8; April 12; June 7; July 12; Sept. 13; Oct. 11; Nov. 6; and Dec. 13.

Special 4-H Activities

The 4-H clubs had a picnic at Old Fort and planned another one at Lake James, but it was postponed. The 4-H girls went with the Home Demonstration ~~women~~ on their picnics.

The special music at the Home Demonstration Achievement Day was given by the senior 4-H quartette and pianist, dressed in their 4-H uniforms, and by the nineteen 4-H Junior girls from the West Marion Club. The Junior girls did not have uniforms so the West Marion Home Demonstration women suggested that they wear 4-H head pieces. The girls in the Agents office made the 4-H bands and the little girls liked them so well that they wore them all day.

Two 4-H girls were ushers at the District Federation meeting. In April the Glenwood 4-H Juniors gave a program on Patriotism to the Parent Teachers Association. They had given such a good program in their club that the Agent wanted their parents to hear them.

Monthly Programs

Organization
 Transplanting trees and shrubs
 Arranging and planting
 Christmas decoration
 Mail boxes
 Propagation
 Health
 Patriotism

September
 October
 November
 December
 January
 February
 March
 April

The programs have been more satisfactory this year than ever before. At last the girls and boys have accepted the responsibility for having their assignments. They now study their parts well enough to give them in an interesting way and they often show originality but they do not digress too much.

The officers have learned in a business like way to make all necessary preparations before time.

JUNIORS

SUBJECT

Jan.--Food and Health
 Feb.--Salads

March.--Salads

April.--Baked Custards

May.--Baked Custards

June.--Milk Products

July.--Fitting of Dresses
 Short Course.

Aug.--Clothing Construction Camp

Sept.--Reorganization
 Report on Projects
 Selection of New Projects

Oct.--Cutting Apron Pattern

Nov.--Aprons

Dec.--Christmas Suggestions

HOME ASSIGNMENTS

Every girl to serve.

Every girl to make a salad at home and two girls to bring one to club.

Every girl to make five more salads during the month.

Every girl to make a baked custard at home and two to bring one to club.

Every girl to make baked custards four more times at home.

Dress Contest.

25 girls to make a dress before making one for dress review.

25 girls to practice until she can make nice dress finishes.

Every club member to complete project and bring record book next time.

Every girl to get cloth for apron and to bring pins and scissors to next meeting.

Every girl to bring thimble, thread, pins, and needles next time.

Every girl to give someone a Christmas present she has made, such as aprons.

SENIORS

SUBJECTS

- Jan. -- Food and Health
- Feb. -- Table Decoration
- March. -- Picnic and Party Refreshments
- April. -- Milk Products
- May. -- Milk Products
- June. -- Clothing Construction
Milk Products
Clothing Selection
- July. -- Fitting of Dress
Short Course.
- Aug. -- Clothing Construction
Camp
- Sept. -- Reorganization
Report on Projects
Selection of New Projects
- Oct. -- (Same as Juniors)
- Nov. -- Clothing Selection
- Dec. -- Christmas Suggestions

HOME ASSIGNMENT

- Every girl to secure health habits and improve diet.
- Every girl to be responsible for attractiveness of table at home for one month.
- Every girl to be at the picnic or party giving and committees to be responsible for it.
- Every girl to make cheese at home.
- 10 girls to enter Milk Products contest.
- 10 girls to enter dress contest.
- 10 girls to learn to fit dresses before starting dress for contest.
- 10 girls to learn to make finishes for dresses.
- (Same as Juniors)
- Each girl to make a collection of aprons with interesting color combinations for Christmas presents or Carb Market sales.
- Each girl to bring ideas for Christmas presents to next meeting.
- (Same as Juniors)

The project demonstrations were prepared by the Agent and taken to club, or when possible made before the club, then the girls were asked to prepare a similar demonstration for the next time.

In January, large charts were used for a discussion on Food for Health.

In February, the Agent made a fruit salad for the Junior club. As she gave the demonstration she discussed the points to consider in making a salad. The salad was served to the girls. Some girls were asked to volunteer to give a fruit salad demonstration at the next meeting.

The Senior girls studied charts, pictures of table decorations and different arrangements were demonstrated.

In March, the Junior volunteers gave their salad demonstrations. In the West Marion club five girls brought salads already made and two girls gave a demonstration before the club.

The Senior girls planned picnics and party menus.

In April, the subject was "baked custard" and "milk products" for the Seniors. The Agent took a baked custard, scored it then served it. Directions were given for making a custard and the importance of milk and eggs in the diet was stressed.

The girls were asked to bring one cup of custard each to the next club meeting. Some excellent custards were brought to the next club meeting.

In September, the clubs were reorganized and projects planned.

In October, the Junior girls planned aprons and each one cut an apron pattern.

The Senior girls had a demonstration on table linen, glasses and dishes for the table. They planned to make a collection of aprons.

At the November meetings, the Juniors cut aprons. The Seniors cut aprons and had a demonstration on selection of lights.

Foods

102 girls were enrolled in the Foods. 55 completed their projects and turned in their project books and almost all of them did all the work assigned.

A few of the things that all have learned are: That every boy and girl should have a quart of milk and an egg every day, that every one should eat colored vegetables and fruit every day, that they should have a garden, a cow and chickens to produce that food and that no boy or girl should say, "I don't like that" about good foods. They know too that coffee, soft drinks and candies are not the kind of things they should have.

The Seniors and some Juniors have learned much more but that is the minimum knowledge by all.

There were no contests in foods though the girls did bring baked custards they had made to club to be scored. Some of them were excellent.

The following quotations were taken from their record books:

"I like 4-H club because it teaches you to do most every thing. I have enjoyed the 4-H club ever since I became a member. I've made three cakes by myself and have helped to make several more. I have made buns; cookies, pies, puddings, biscuits, rolls, and lots of beverages. We have milk and butter to cook with and I have cooked lots of meals by myself."

I drink plenty of water and milk every day.

I help to pack lunches some times.

I have learned lots about cutting out dresses this year and hope to learn a lot more about cooking, sewing and keeping house." --Elva Gouge

"I have gotten all assignments assigned by my 4-H leader and I have not missed any of the meetings. I have baked bread 20 times, planned and cooked dinner 20 times, planned meals 20 times and always wash dishes when I am at home. I always clean my own room." --Mary Helen Dobson

"I like 4-H real well. We have canning contests and sewing contests. We cook and bring biscuits to club and make aprons. I try to do the best I can." --Kathleen Burnette.

"This year my club work has been a great improvement especially in cooking. It has not been a drudgery working for my certificate. I become more skilled every time I prepare anything. I have become more dependable and have helped Mother to prepare different foods." --Juanita Cannon

"The first biscuits I made were not so good but each time since then they have improved and now I can make very nice ones." --Irene Casswell, Hazel Willis, Mary Alice Turner.

"I have learned to make good muffins this year." --Mary Sue Moffitt

At North Cove, when the Agent mentioned the fact that whipped cream made a good salad dressing, one sixth grade girl said; "Well, tell me what whipped cream is." After the Agent has told her how to whip cream she learned that the family did not have a cow but bought 50¢ worth of canned milk each week for a family of nine. The Agent changed the subject from "salads" to "diets". The girl said they had beef about twice a year and that they bought macaroni regularly in large quantities. The merchant's wife who is a Home Demonstration club member said that the girl's family were their most profitable customers but that she was concerned over their diets. That girl and her sister have agreed to learn to like to eat everything.

Mrs. Ernest Wright said, "Sarah, a Junior club member, has been making baked custard at home since she learned to make it in the club and the whole family likes it."

Carolyn Byrd, a Junior club member, told the Cherry Springs Home Demonstration club women how to make custard.

Canning

Ten girls entered and completed their canning projects. Lillian Green, of the Old Fort club won the State prize in the Vocational Home Economics canning contest. Her fruit and vegetable jars were placed in the white ribbon group at the State fair. Mary Sue Tisdale won \$2.00 in the State five jar contest. Five girls entered the County canning contest.

The following quotation was taken from a letter sent to the Agent:

"This summer I have completed my 4-H club record book. I have kept up all the requirements of a 4-H club member. I have canned 256 jars of food including peaches, tomatoes, corn, beans, peas, berries, okra, turnip tops, apples, grapes, plums and many other vegetables and fruits. I made about 250 glasses of jelly and preserves. I have tried my best to keep up all 4-H requirements. I completed my 'Foods and Nutrition' record book." -- Lorena Gaddy

Ruth Bowman reported having canned 263 quarts of fruits and 107 quarts of vegetables.

Mary Sue Tisdale canned 80 quarts of vegetables, 46 quarts of fruit, 2 of meats, 6 of juices and 4 of preserves.

Clothing

Twelve girls were enrolled and all completed projects. Nine girls entered the County dress contest. The four first and second winners in the county contest went to Hendersonville and the two Junior girls tied for first place there. The two girls were Hazel McCurry and Sarah Brinkley. Hazel's dress was made from a figured feed sack.

One girl entered the State Dress Review.

The greatest training the McDowell girls received from the dress contests has been the emphasis on honest competition. The Agent has stressed the importance of each girl doing her own work.

Jewell McSee reported 8 articles made at a cost of \$4.20 and she valued them at \$7.94.

Jenia Wiseman made a clothing inventory. She estimated that she saved \$4.00 by making her dress, blouse, and skirt.

Health

Health records blanks were given to every club member. The Agents measured and weighed each club member and then discussed health rules. Only 38 of the 102 club girls kept and returned health record books.

Ruth Jarrett scored high when the local doctor examined her but her rating was not so high at the Asheville contest.

Federation Day

Mr. Hafe, editor of McDowell News, spoke on the importance of an idea and of the value of completing projects.

The Mebo 4-H club gave a program on the development of 4-H.

Contests

There were two County contests: the canning and dress contests.

Five girls entered the dress contest and five in the canning contest.

Four girls entered the District Dress Review.

One girl entered the State Dress Review.

Special Activities

The 4-H clubs had a picnic at Old Fort and planned another one at Lake James, but it was postponed. The 4-H girls went with the Home Demonstration women on their picnics.

The special music at the Home Demonstration Achievement Day was given by the Senior 4-H quartette and pianist, dressed in their 4-H uniforms, and by nineteen girls of the Junior group from West Marion club. The Junior girls did not have uniforms so the Home Demonstration women suggested that they wear head pieces.

The girls in the Agent's office made the 4-H bands and the little girls like them so well they wore them all day.

Two 4-H girls were ushers at the District Federation meeting. In April the Glenwood 4-H Juniors gave a program on Patriotism to the Parent Teachers Association. They had given such a good program in their club that the Agent wanted their parents to hear them.

Camp

There were two camps for the girls, one at Boone and the other at Kings Mountain. Only a limited number of girls could go to Boone Camp so one girl from each Senior 4-H club was taken. Helen Wilkerson, leader for the 4-H club at Sugar Hill, went too and conducted lessons in crafts. Seven girls went from McDowell County.

The Boone camp was the type of camp that should be held everywhere. Responsibilities were evenly distributed among Agents, the kitchen and the cooks were clean, instruction was given to the girls but all the classes were interesting. The recreation was varied, some games and trips to places they had not seen. Religious training was also included in the camp program.

Miss Thomas gave a demonstration of foods and table service. Miss Rowe discussed the importance of neatness in clothing and in the care of the rooms. At another time she told the girls the names of the State Staff and what each person does.

Miss Teague gave a demonstration on Clothing Selection.

Miss Cochon demonstrated flower arrangement.

Each evening we had vespers and recreation. Miss Barrier and Mrs. King directed the recreation.

Miss Helen Wilkerson taught the girls to make notebook backs of plywood. She took her own gasoline stylus and sander. Each girl received a notebook to take home. The girls were told that any good wood was pretty finished as the notebooks were: sandpapered, oiled and waxed, or made a dull gloss.

Everyone went to Grandfather's Mountain and Blowing Rock for .10¢ each trip. The camp was so inexpensive and the group was small enough for all to get acquainted. The buildings were attractive and comfortable. The agents seemed to enjoy being together as much as the girls.

Sixteen girls and boys went to the 4-H camp at Kings Mountain with Gaston County. Gaston County had four leaders and four agents and about four times as many club members as McDowell County.

The camp program was the same as the year before except that the last day, Sunday, Mr. Brooks conducted religious services.

Jewell McBes enjoyed the Boone camp so much she went to Kings Mountain camp. There can be no doubt that those two weeks have been of wonderful value to her. She is secretary of her club this year and the report she gave this month on Mr. Homeood's talk on "Food for Defense" was exceptionally good.

State Short Course

Three girls and two boys went to Short Course. Marjorie Hoppes and her brother went because Marjorie represented the County at the State Dress Review the year before and she enjoyed the trip so much she wanted to go back.

Those two trips are probably responsible for her going to college this year. Going to college is unusual in that community.

More 4-H members would attend Short Course if they could stand the great change of climate.

Looking to the Future

The North Cove 4-H club has gradually improved but this fall it is the leading club because the principal of the school, Mr. Howard, does not just allow the Agents to have the boys and girls for two hours each month. He wants the Agents and he does not forget that he received a letter the day before reminding him that the next day would be the 4-H meeting time. He helps with 4-H work and his teachers help. The school works with 4-H club and the teachers help to see that the members prepare their assignments.

That proves that a 4-H club depends to a great extent on the attitude of the teachers for those club members seem like different girls and boys.

If the Agents can get all the teachers in the County to believe in 4-H work then there will be a future for 4-H in McDowell County.

Plan of Work for 4-H Clubs for 1942

Joint Programs

Dec.--Christmas Program
 Jan.--Safety
 Feb.--Poultry
 March.--Gardens
 April.--Thrift
 Sept.--Thrift
 Oct.--First Aid
 Nov.--Safety

Project Plans

Senior

Jan.--Plan Uniform
 Feb.--Cut Uniform
 March.--Fit Uniform
 April.--Finishings
 May.--Individual Instruction
 June.--Individual Instruction and Picnics
 July.--Short Course
 Aug.--Contests
 Sept.--Reorganize
 Oct.--Plan dress
 Nov.--Cut dress
 Dec.--Fit dress

Junior

Out Slip
 Fit Slip
 Seams
 Hem and Facings
 Individual Instruction
 Individual Instruction and Picnics
 Short Course
 Contests
 Reorganize
 Plan Uniform
 Cut Uniform
 Fit Uniform

Goals

200 club member to make aprons and slips.
 50 club members to make dress or uniforms.
 10 club members to learn to appreciate the value of money.
 All club members to learn a few first aid remedies.

JUNIOR 4-H CLUB

The Junior 4-H Club organized Friday, September 12 with the aid of Mr. S. L. Homewood and Miss Jean Steele, the farm and home agents. Most of the boys and girls of the sixth and seventh grades, and a number from the fifth grade have become members.

Miss Steele and Mr. Homewood are planning to meet with the club twice each month. The sponsor, Miss Prichard, meets with them also. They are planning to study "Home Making, Farming and Home Beautification."

In the seventh grade the girls are organizing a Home Economics Club. They are planning to collect recipes, household hints, exchange patterns and carry out the assignments Miss Steele gives them. The boys are going to study bulletins and farm magazines in an effort to learn ways of improving their projects. The motto "To make the best better" is the aim in all the club members endeavor to do.

The pledge will help everyone who lives by it to become better citizens. It is as follows:

I pledge

My head to clearer thinking,
My heart to greater loyalty,
My hands to larger service
And my health to better living
For my club, my community,
and my country.

NORTH COVE 4-H CLUB GIRLS ENTER CONTESTS

Three North Cove girls, Sarah Brinkley, Genia Wiseman, and Julia King English entered the 4-H dress contest in Marion on September 20. All three placed in the county contest.

Julia King English won first place in the larger group, and Genia Wiseman placed second. In the smaller group, Sarah Brinkley won first place.

On September 24, Miss Jean Steele, County Home Demonstration Agent, took the three contestants to Hendersonville to enter the dress revue in the Hendersonville Fair.

In this contest Sarah Brinkley tied for first place in the smaller group; and was awarded \$1.50.

On October 3, Julia King English will go to Raleigh to compete for the state prize.

The North Cove 4-H Clubs are making much progress this year. They are out to win the achievement banner for being the most outstanding club in the county.

**SAM HOMEWOOD AND
RUTH JARRETT ARE
NAMED HEALTHIEST**

Sam Homewood, Jr., of Marion, and Ruth Jarrett, of Dyersville, have the distinction of being McDowell county's healthiest boy and girl.

They were named as the healthiest boy and girl in the county in the contest held last week by County Farm Agent S. L. Homewood, and Home Demonstration Supervisor Miss Jean Steele.

Members of the 4-H clubs of the county were eligible to participate. They will go to Asheville next Monday where they will compete among the winners of other western North Carolina counties for the title of King and Queen of Health for this part of the state.

Each county in the western district is expected to enter a boy and girl in the district finals. The winner of the finals in Asheville will represent this district in the state contest at Raleigh.

Dr. W. N. Stok, Suncombe county health officer, will examine the contestants in the Asheville finals, which will be held on the sixth floor of the Suncombe county courthouse.

**ACHIEVEMENT DAY HELD
HERE BY 4-H CLUBS**

Certificates for the completion of 4-H club work were awarded to 67 boys and girls here last Saturday morning at the annual achievement day meeting of 4-H club members of McDowell county.

Members of the 4-H clubs were addressed by Paul O. Nafe, editor of the McDowell News. Mr. Nafe stated it was important for youth today to have original thought and gave numerous illustrations of young men and women who had achieved success by developing an idea.

Achievement certificates were presented by County Agent S. L. Homewood and Miss Jean Steele, home demonstration agent.

**CERTIFICATES AWARDED
TO 4-H CLUB MEMBERS**

Merit certificates for the completion of club work have been awarded by County Agent S. L. Homewood and Miss Jean Steele, county home demonstration agent, to 58 4-H club boys and girls in McDowell. The awards were made at the annual achievement day held in Marion.

Receiving certificates were the following:

One year: Martha Bailey, Grace Corpening, Naomi McGhee, Mary Catherine Boone, Ina Livingston, Patricia Ann Griewald, Wynette Hicks, Dimple Fortune, Bernice Fortune, Christine Neal, Evers Cranson, Geraldine Trinks, Mary Sue Moffitt, Juanita Young, Laura Watts Crawford, Juanita Cannon, Marjorie Carver, Hazel McCurry, D. Dean Burgin, Mary Frances Cheek, Mae Morgan, Eloise Marlowe, Mildred Anderson, Lillian Croom, Vada Davis, Genevieve Galloway, Katherine Pyatt, Mary Sue Tidale, Gwendolyn Greenlee, Clara Belle Lytle, Sarah Brinkley, Jewell Melton, Gladys Burnett, Kathleen Lonon, Julia King English, Marjorie D. Hopper, Virginia Arrowood, Mary Kaylor, Mary Olive Potent, Lucille Potent, Ruby Rice, Ernestine Epice, Gladys Messer, Lorene Holland, Wilma Byrd and Ruth Jarrett.

Two-year: Edward Burgin, Grayson Nichols, Eon English, Harding Bean, Hubert Walker, Carroll Byrd, Bill Silver and Roy Conley.

Three-year: Donald Anderson and F. M. Wilson.

Four-year: Bill English and Sammie Homewood.