

1914-1989



ANNIVERSARY

UW EXTENSION
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

75 YEARS
OF
PRICE COUNTY
EXTENSION

EXTENSION POSITIONS HELD

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS

Richard, Griffith - February 15, 1913 to March 19, 1917
Sargent, F.H. - April 19, 1917 to March 1, 1919
Rahmlow, Henry J. - March 1, 1919 to November 12, 1927
Jacobson, A.M. - November 15, 1927 to August 31, 1934
Meyer, Frederic W. - October 1, 1934 to December 31, 1938
Peterson, A.S. - January 1, 1939 to December 31, 1944
Rogan, William D. - March 20, 1945 to May 14, 1953
Johansen, Milo V. - June 1, 1953 to May 30, 1971
Palmquist, James A. - June 1, 1971 to March 15, 1977
Burcalow, William D. - June 1, 1977 to January 12, 1982
Schwobe, David - May 1, 1984 to March 24, 1989
Miller, Daniel B. - April 17, 1989 to Present

FARM LABOR AGENT

Milne, William - June 1, 1943 to November 30, 1945

COUNTY DAIRY AGENT

Johnson, Donald - June 1, 1945 to June 30, 1946

4H YOUTH AGENTS

Panzer, Robert - February 1, 1982 to 1984
Kamp, Deb - December 12, 1985
Retzlaff, Margaret - March 1986 to March 1989
Hora-Schwobe, Donna - April 1986 to February 1989
Schleif, Rosanne - June 16, 1989 to Present

COUNTY HOME AGENTS

Stoughton, Merle - May 27, 1946 to July 31, 1947

Stark, Mrs. Irene - January 1, 1948 to August 31, 1949

Kessell, Elizabeth J. - September 1, 1949 to March 31, 1951

Brady, Kathryn L. - June 11, 1951 to November 30, 1956

Spears, Joan R. - September 1, 1957 to April 30, 1958

Crook, Hazel - June 16, 1958 to March 31, 1966

HOME ECONOMISTS

Hornick, Anne - November 28, 1966 to July 31, 1969

Benoy, Joan A. - November 16, 1969 to August 31, 1974

Lilyquist, Rhonda - September 3, 1974 to September 30, 1977

Meier, Lynette - October 10, 1977 to September 1980

Dukerschein, Shirley - January 1, 1980 to 1984

Huycke, Gail - January 1, 1984 to Present

F & H DEVELOPMENT AGENTS

Brady, Tom - August 15, 1954 to May 31, 1957

DeVriend, Adrian - September 9, 1957 to February 28, 1965

ASSISTANT AGENT LUP

Meyer, Armin - September 1, 1940 to May 31, 1941

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AGENT

Hendrickson, V.C. - October 17, 1955 to October 14, 1959

ASSISTANT COUNTY AGENT

Lewandowski, Francis - October 19, 1959 to June 15, 1960

FORESTRY AGENT

Herman, Ron - April 1, 1965 to December, 1985

ARBUTUS HILL

The club was organized by Mr. and Mrs. Bob Fox in 1961. There were 8 members who were Carl Knapp, Karen Russo, Gary Russo, Barbara Strand, Dale Meives, Ken Cork, and Robert Fox. The club members and leaders joined the Camp Merrill Club on October 28, 1963.

1985

BIG ELK BADGERS

The Big Elk Badgers 4H club was started in 1948. It was named for the state badger and a local river.

The first general leaders were Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Sutton with the main projects being Dairy, Clothing and Cooking.

The members held a mini-fair for club members about a week before the county fair. Members brought fair exhibits and a food stand was there to raise money for the club. Each year for a number of years the club held a winter carnival and invited other clubs to attend. In the early years county square dances were held which our club attended.

Each year our club sent members to the county speaking contest, dress revue, and demonstrations. We have always had members active in the Junior Leader organization. The membership has been anywhere from 12 members up to 35. We now have some second generation members.

During the years we have sent members to the National Club Congress in Chicago, Dress Revue, Demonstrations at State Fair, District Speakers, District Cultural Arts and Drama, Winter Camp, Forestry, Upham Woods, Club Congress at Madison, Washington Focus and District Interviews. We have got one of the first county ambassadors. Some members have received Plat Book Fund scholarships.

Junior Leaders worked in the dairy bar as workers' assistants and managers. Junior Leaders helped put on a county carnival and rummage sale at the fairgrounds to raise money for the organization.

Mr. Rodney Sutton was a leader of the county 4H tractor project about 30 years ago. At present, Duane Lind is county tractor leader. Each year our club has had a fair booth. We did have safety windows for a number of years.

Don Sutton was on the state 4H board for four years. Our club has held a local banquet for leaders, members, parents and friends. For the past 13 years this has been held in the fall.

The club has gone roller skating in Spirit and Medford. We have also held sliding parties, club picnics, and gone ice skating.

In 1963 Don and Ruth Sutton became General Leaders after the death of Rodney Sutton. Over the years we have had many leaders: Rodney and Ruby Sutton, General; Helen Venhor, Cooking; Lillian Chase, Home Furnishings; Marie Foytek, Knitting; Sandy Sutton Feryance, Knitting and Crafts; Becky Skomaroske, crafts; Frances Foytik, Cooking and Flours; Frank Jasurda, Dairy; Joanne Rehbein, Foods and Camp Cookouts; Harold Dunbar, Woodworking; Mary Lou Dunbar, Child Care; Joyce Lind, Clothing; Duane Lind, Tractor and Dairy; Jeanie Sutton Heizler and Barb Rolling, Clothing.

We have had many members serving as camp counselors with Ruth Sutton being camp cook for a number of years. Many of our mothers worked in the dining hall. For a number of years our leaders have helped prepare the meals for the Superior Touring Theatre. Our members and parents also help fix and serve the REC Dinner. Ruth Sutton was head cook at the fair for a number of years. Now she is a helper. We have had parents and members helping in the Dining Hall at fair time giving time and food donations. Members and parents have helped the judges at the fair in Clothing, Demonstrations, Cultural Arts and Drama and Foods Revue, also with the clean-up and fixed things at the fairgrounds.

Leaders and parents have driven other members on trips to Winter Camp, District Interviews, District Drama, Junior Leaders, Camp-outs. Many members have been on the dairy judging teams. Ed Jasurda took a cow to State Fair and Ginger Sutton went to State Fair with Dress Revue girls as a coordinator.

We have had parents chaperone county camp at night. For a number of years Don Sutton was in charge of draining the water at the Dining Hall and Dairy Bar. In the fall it was shut off and drained and in the spring it was hooked up and a sample taken and sent to the State Lab of Hygiene before camp.

Barb Rolling, one of our clothing leaders helped organize the Dress Revue at the fair last year and is working on it again this year.

This year has been another busy one for our club. Our county hosted the District Arts and Drama (Kaleidoscope) in March. Many leaders, parents and members were kept busy helping anywhere needed. Renita Lind will be going to State Fair with her demonstration. Renee Lind will go with her dress for Dress Revue. Renee Lind was in Madison for Club Congress in June. She still is county ambassador. Lance

Cultural Arts putting on a singing dance. Three members took part in county Demonstration; six in Dress Revue and several in Crafts and seven in Foods Revue.

In the past years our club has had bake sales, worked at auctions, served agriculture dinners at the Normal School, worked at county car shows to raise money for our club. Each year we send a member to camp and pay for camperships, help with club congress and Washington trips.

Over the years we have had some great members, leaders and parents. Without them, we would have no 4H.

This year we were asked to plant flowers in one flower bed at the nursing home so the flowers have to be weeded and watered. We have also decorated Christmas trees for the nursing home in the past.

1985

BUSY BEAVERS

In 1940 this club was formally organized with only boys as members, though they had a calf club previously without an adult leader. It was then that Roy Meier became a leader, a job he held for 30 years.

When Roy's oldest daughter, Marilyn, got to be 10 years old, she said, "If boys can belong to 4H, girls should too." Now more leaders were needed when every youngster in town wanted to join 4H. There were four 1 room schools in the area so Roy went to the teachers for aid. Ruth and Evelyn Hayda and Della Anderson gave their assistance with enrollment. Some girls had calf projects but soon took Sewing and Nutrition projects with Elizabeth Rhody, Bessie Scheller, Adeline Sirowicz, Marie Hoffman and Jane Johnson joining the ranks as leaders who were very dedicated. Many of the girls were able to go to Madison for State Dress Revue after competing in the county. Some also went with demonstrations.

By 1944 there were 60 members in the club. At this time, two more clubs were formed, namely: the Wilson Workers and Spirit Center Badgers.

In the late 1950's, the club agent, Mr. Lewandowski, encouraged the young people to try out for the State Band and Chorus and many of them did. This proved to be a wonderful experience for them. This club began as a Dairy Calf Club and over the years has been strong in Dairy. At one time they filled one wing of the County Fair Dairy Barn with mostly guernseys. It was around this time that the same girl who felt girls should be able to join, now felt that girls should be able to stay at the fairgrounds also to

boys did, so the small building that had been used for First Aid was fixed for girls to stay in. Some that had this privilege were Marilyn Meier, Mildred Menning and two others. Later the CCC buildings were moved to the Fairgrounds and have since been used as dormitories.

As the number of farms dropped off in the area and families changed, less and less dairy cattle were shown. In recent years there have been no Dairy members and only one Beef cattle member. With former members and leaders having children nearing 4H age, the feeling is that the new members will probably show cattle again.

With enrollment being as high as 60 at one time, it has varied throughout the years. At one time an 8 year old was asked to join so the club could continue on with 5 members needed.

The club has always centered in Spirit and for most of the years, the old Liberty School in the German Settlement was the hub. Since the country schools disappeared and the area has been split into several districts, members have come from a number of areas, sometimes many miles. One member from Taylor County joined the Busy Beavers because the club in his area had no interest in Dairying. In the late 1940's the club exhibited at the Taylor County Fair in Medford.

In recent years a number of the members live in Lincoln County and the members come from 3 different school districts, making scheduling and communications difficult.

As memory recalls, Busy Beavers have exhibited at the Price County Fair every year since 1940 except for the war year when the Fair was not held. It was at that time with the Spirit Hill Ogema 4H Fair began with Busy Beavers as one of the charter clubs. The fact that it is over 30 miles to Phillips explains why some families have considered the Spirit Hill Ogema 4H Fair as more important than the County Fair, but county participation has always been stressed by our leaders.

During Roy Meier's years as General Leader, he served as a member of the State 4H Council where he met many wonderful friends from around the state. After Roy retired as leader, the position has been filled by former members. Ed Scheller held the position for a couple of years followed by Albert Meier (Roy's nephew) and Darrel and Luann Lind. At present Gene (Roy's son) and Marie Meier are General Leaders. Many of the parents of the club members and others have served as project leaders.

As Roy said, "Those 4H years were the best years of my Life."

CAMP MERRILL

The club was organized by Kate (Al) Heitkemper in 1933. She had 8 members, 5 boys and 3 girls. On June 4, 1945, the club had 12 members and 2 leaders. The club was named after the Camp Merrill. Mrs. Alrik Anderson was the general leader and Mrs. Art Rasmussen as an assistant leader, and they both were the project leaders.

The new members were Bernice Anderson, Esther Rasmussen, Walter Rasmussen, Betty Gehring, Jack Gehring, Edith Heitkemper, Elsie Heitkemper, Larry DuBrava, Pearl DuBrava, Maxine Wiemer, Jack Cebery, and Dean Haffa. All of them had entries in the fair that first year, and they won many prizes.

In 1946 there were a few more members, and the club decided to work for safety. They made posters, tested well water, checked their farms for safety hazards, and each gave a speech on safety.

In 1948 there were 21 members. The general leader was Mrs. Alrik Anderson, Assistant leader was Mrs. A. Rasmussen. The club still worked for safety, but turned its thoughts to health improvement.

On through the years the member participation increased and decreased. They were very active years that the club had participated in such activities such as Safety, Camping, Floats, Booths at the Fair, Posters, and Carnivals.

COUNTRYSIDE

This is a new club this year just taking the old club name back. We have 10 members and they are: Tami Anderson, Tammie Bleck, Alan Fusak, Debbie Fusak, Sandy Fusak, Jacob Koch, Shawn Koch, Jason Staroba, Micky Staroba and Rebecca Fusak.

We hold our meetings the second Saturday of the month. Things we did in our club was pick up garbage, went caroling, gave older people boxes of goodies at Christmas, made Christmas wreaths, had picnics besides our regular things for 4H.

Our General Leader is Clara Stanke. Other leaders are: Phyllis Fusak, Janet Fusak, Dan Stanke, Mary Staroba, Jean Grant and Cindy Stanke.

FOUR SQUARE

The Four Square Club was started in 1934 and the first general leader was Oscar Nelson. Project leaders, also at that time were: Helen Bisseger, Hank Badding, and Grace Stibs. Later the general leaders were Sadie and Art Nelson. In the mid-40's, John and Minnie Lighthall were the club's general leaders and they were succeeded by Minnie Cummings and Laura Riedel.

Some of the club's first members were: Carl Nelson, Genevieve Nelson, Gertrude Nelson, Edwin Nelson, Herbert Nelson, Erwin Nelson, Kenny Nelson, Clifford Badding, Raphael Badding, Armin Riedel, Harvey Riedel, Muriel Bisseger, Ethelyne Bisseger, Dorothy Schilling, Henry Schilling, Delores Riedel, Helen Nyberg, Addison Stibe, Adeline Stibe, Helen Riedel, Jim Nelson, Ilene Nelson, and Trace Billistine.

Meetings for the club were held once a month. The members most always met at the Lone Corner School House instead of in their own homes in the early days of the club's existence.

Some of the main projects open to the 4H members were: dairy, cooking, sewing, horses and gardening.

During the second year of the club's being, members who were sixteen years or older were allowed to be junior leaders and help the younger members with projects and other events.

Basket socials were one of the club's main events. The socials were held in the fall and the money gathered during the occasion was used to send some of the members to the summer 4H camp.

The Four Square 4H club also organized a softball team, which played in Hackett, among other places.

Beginning in 1938, the area 4H clubs sponsored a Price County Dairy Queen Contest. Ilene Nelson, a member of the Four Square 4H club at the time, was chosen as the Dairy Queen one of the years. She traveled to the State Fair in Milwaukee to represent the Price County 4H clubs and Wisconsin cheese.

Another main event for the 4H club was helping to plant trees at their own homes. The trees were given to them by the county.

A picnic was held once a year for the club members and their families. This event was said to be a big occasion, because few of the people were able to go very far from home in those days without a car, so everyone looked forward to getting together for the picnic.

1985

HAPPY HOBOES

The Happy Hoboes 4H Club was formed in 1960. Mrs. Alvin (Joyce) Swan was the first leader. Mrs. Elmer (Alice) Hallstrand assisted her.

The club covered the area north of Ogema and south of Prentice. When trying to decide on a name, someone said "We're just a bunch of hoboes!" Another said, "and we're happy", and so that was it. Several times during the years someone has said "What a dumb name!" So, we have opened it up to suggestions for a new name, but could never come up with anything better. So we remain the Happy Hoboes. We have used our name sometimes in a float or a skit theme.

Through the years our club has been active in county events: Speaking contest, Music and Drama Festival, Food and Clothing Revues, Basketball and Softball Tournaments, Market Animal Sale, and County Exchange.

We participate in the county fair and also in the Spirit Fair. We are proud to have won the traveling trophy for tug-o-war several times. Several of our girls have been crowned Queen of the Fairs.

During the years our club has consistently had a membership of around 20 members. We are glad that many of our members have continued in the club until their high school graduation. One of our members, Scott Saari, has attended the Washington Citizenship Focus.

We have a number of project leaders who have been active in the club for 10 years or more. Parents who are interested in helping their young people is what has made our club a "Happy" one for the past 25 years.

Present leaders are: Marilyn and Eugene Erickson
Project leaders are: Marvene Bruner, Marcia Carlson, Vicki Paul, Claire Hackbarth, Linda and Ron Milbradt, Virginia Nelson, Betty and Bill Saari, and Leona Will.
Present Officers are: Toni Bruner, President; Steve Saari, Vice President; Kris Milbradt, Secretary; James Milbradt, Treasurer.

1985

HARMONY

The Harmony 4H Club was started back in 1936-1937. Mrs. Clifford Palmer was their leader. Our club started with ten girls in a sewing class. At that time each girl was to make a 4H uniform of green material with Peter Pan collar of white, and white cuffs to be worn to all 4H meetings. Several of our girls won prizes on them.

Our first group of girls were Mary Horak, Rosalee Russo, Georgette Hrad, Effa Palmer, May Surprenant, Bernice Rolls, Agnes Kucaba, Toni, Ann, and Blanche Perger.

The next year we had boys from these families join; Simpsons, Surprenants, Palmers, and Kucabas. They raised sheep, calves, garden and poultry for projects. The girls also had some of these projects and they all won many prizes at the County Fair.

Several years later Mrs. George Kralicek, and Mrs. Henry Kucaba were the leaders for eight years. After that they joined the Hillside 4H Club. It was in the 1940's when we joined them. Our clubs were active for twenty years or more.

1985

HIGHLAND HUSTLERS

To the best of our knowledge, our club began in 1946 with the first completed year being 1947. Mrs. Virginia Dunbar, Mrs. Cora Cummings, and Mr. & Mrs. John Eitel were very active in starting the club. Some of the first projects which were carried by the members were: Sewing, Home Furnishings, Gardening, Farm Crops, Electricity, Forestry, Dairy, Poultry, Cooking, Home Grounds Improvement.

Some additional projects carried as the years went on were: Conservation, Woodworking, Photography, Food Preservation, Houseplants, Child Care, Automotive, Crocheting, Song Birds, Wildlife, Horses, Knitting, Dogs & Cats, Arts & Crafts, and Exploring.

Now there are numerous other projects which the members have tried, however the above list covers the majority of the projects carried.

Some of the many activities the club participated in were: Stenciling mailboxes, Senior Citizens Parties, Dances, Achievement Day, Indian Dancing, Bike-A-Thons, Litter Pickup, and Window Displays.

The Highland Hustler's Club would like to recognize the following general leaders which helped the club grow: John Eitel, Mrs. Virginia Dunbar, Mrs. Julia Stanke, Mrs. Edith Hatina, Mrs. Violet (Oliver) Dunbar, Mrs. Clara Stanke, Mrs. Nancy Vyskocil, and Mrs. Rose Marie Kerner.

From 1959 to 1970, Mrs. Edith Hatina was general & project leader; Mrs. Oliver Dunbar, Jr. was a leader from 1965 to 1976; Mrs. Nancy Vyskocil from 1972 to 1976; Mrs. Clara Stanke from 1976 to 1983; and Mrs. Rose Marie Kerner from 1978 to the present time.

1985

HILLBILLIES

The club was organized in the spring of 1939, by Phyllis Blakely. The first meeting was held at the Norlin school. John Lundberg was elected to be the boys leader, and Lilas Roche, girls leader. Roe Frisbie thought "Hillbillies" a good name for the club as most were all from the Town of Hill.

In 1941, William Rogan arrived and promoted 4H Clubs. That is when the Hillside Club was started and the forest forty was turned over to the Hillside 4H. Each year the club members would plant trees on the forty acres. The Phillips School District now owns it.

Three members went to Club Congress that first year. They were: Grace Blomberg Rhody, Willard Tripp, and Warren Frisbie. The following year, Grace won the Dairy Queen contest and went to State Fair. The "Healthiest Boy and Healthiest Girl" was Roe Frisbie and Joyce Patterson Donaldson.

Other leaders during our early years were Jennie Magnuson, George and Lilly Blomberg, and Luella Patterson. The Blomberg's started the Hillbillies 4H Park. Our present leader is Ardis Anderson.

In 1955 Len Salek took over as 4H Leader. Amelia Salek was a co-leader and she helped out Len Salek. In about 1966 the few that were still in the 4H age, joined the Pioneer 4H Club.

1985

KAISER KIDS

In the early spring of 1924, County Agent H.J. Rahmlow came to Mrs. Daniel Nusbaum and said he was trying to get some young people's clubs started in the country and thought maybe she'd help get a girl's club started in the Kaiser community. And so was born the Kaiser Kids Kanning Klub (we thought the name was Kute) with six members: Viola and Adeline Gropp; Gertrude and Irene Gropp; Alberta Gropp and Lucille Nusbaum, leader.

By the next year the boys in Kaiser had a club, The Kaiser Kids Kalf Klub (they thought that was Klever), and in the following years there was a Kooking Klub, a Poultry Club, a Forestry Club, all separate organizations with separate officers, until about 1928 or 1929 when they united and became the Kaiser Kids 4H Club with separate projects.

For many years the general leaders were Mr. and Mrs. Nusbaum. About 1950 Ruth Sedovic became the general leader, and in 1956 or 1957 Lucille (Nusbaum) Hardzinski became the general leader.

The Lakeside Club and the Kaiser Kids always worked closely together, so that when about in 1976, the number of potential members in the immediate neighborhood dropped, it seemed only natural for the Kaiser Kids to merge with the Lakeside Club. During their years of existence, the individual members won many honors.

1985

LAKESIDE LOYALTIES

The Lakeside Loyalties were organized for the youth of the Town of Lake about 1950.

The first general leaders were Mr. and Mrs. (Grace) Wagner. They were succeeded by Mr. and Mrs. (Dorothy) John Froemming, Mr. and Mrs. (Lorraine) Roy Hilberg, Mr. and Mrs. (Eleanore) Olson and Mr. and Mrs. (Kathern) Fenzl.

Some of the activities that the club was involved in were Agricultural Demonstrations, Tractor Maintenance, Farm Safety, District Club Camp, Dress Revue, Achievement Day, Poultry Contest, Trees, and Garden Projects.

The club had from 10-20 active members. Meetings were held at members' homes, where all family members attended. About 1976 due to the lack of members we merged with the Kaiser Kids 4H Club. Our area youth are now under the general leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Fenzl.

1985

LUCKY CLOVER

The Lucky Clover 4H Club was started about 1957-1978. The leaders were Steve and Betty Walcisak from 1957-1963 and 1967-1977. Also Walter and Elizabeth Tegen from 1964-1966, and Sherb and Ginger Mabie, 1978.

The Lucky Clovers combined with the Ramblers Club in 1979 to form Whispering Pines 4H. The number of members was between 15 and 25.

Some of the Club Activities were Floats for the 4th of July and Lumbermen's Day, Window Displays, 4H Speech Contest, Club Congress, Citizenship Shortcourse, and National Dairy Conference.

The Club had a singing group called "Six Clubs and a Square". The members were Sue Tegen, Marvin Tegen, Terry Tegen, Jim Walcisak, Henry Tegen, and Charles Tegen.

1985

NATURE LOVERS

In 1974, Mrs. Len Salek, assisted by Mrs. Avis Slattery started the Nature Lovers 4H Club. The club had approximately 30 to 35 members at first, most of them from the Catawba area. The club held their meetings at the Catawba Village Hall, and after a couple of years, in members' homes.

Early in the club's history, there were a number of Project Leaders. These included Marge Makovsky, Linda Scotch, Maggie Chamberlain, Len Salek, Duane Slattery, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Raleigh, and Cathy Peterson.

Several years ago Walter and Cathy Peterson became the club's general leaders. About that time, too, the two Kennan 4H Clubs merged into one club, and after several years.. disbanded. Some of the Kennan area 4H-ers and leaders joined Nature Lovers. Just this past year the name of the club has been changed to the KC Clovers. The KC stands for Kennan and Catawba and reflects the fact that the club now represents that whole area as the local 4H Club.

Mike and Gloria Lyons; Wes, Alice, and Tom Iverson; Jim and Denise Walcisak; Len and Jo Ann Salek; and Sherb and Virginia Mabie all do their part to help keep the club going well. Meetings are held now at the Kennan Fire Hall, usually on the 3rd Monday of each month.

In their 12 years as a club, members have taken part in a wide variety of projects and activities. Four of our members were awarded trips to Washington D.C. Citizenship Focus were JoAnne Kempen, Jan Salek, Janet Sidenberder, and Mary Peterson. Janet and Mary were also County Key Award winners.

Our club is active in community affairs, taking part in both the Catawba Lumbermen's Day and the Kennan July 4th activities. Club members have also done such "good deeds" as cleaning litter from the local roadways, planting flowers at the Town Hall in Catawba, and cleaning up the basement of that Town Hall.

In recent years, our most ambitious projects have been those which involve dairy promotion. For several years now, our club has taken part in the Dairy Promotion Contest sponsored by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau and the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board. In 1982, our club won the traveling trophy at the District Contest for the originality of our "Dress a Calf" Contest we had at Lumbermen's Day that year. In 1983, our club won a beautiful "To be Kept" trophy for Outstanding Dairy Promotion. That year we had a Special Ag Olympics at Lumbermen's Day. Since most of our members live on dairy farms, we feel that these activities are good ones for us. We also have a lot of fun with special craft days, and roller skating parties. We have also had picnics, bonfires, and sleigh rides.

1985

OLD MILL

The Old Mill 4H Club was named after the community and school where many of the meetings were held.

The first year was 1950 under the leadership of Telma Froeming. The members in 1950 were Albert Watland, Richard Zikan, Patricia Zolnierczyk, Virginia Zikan, Neil Froeming and Earl Halterman. That year our 6 members raised 5 dairy animals, 185 chickens; planted, tended and harvested 1800 sq. feet of gardens, grew 18 3/4 bushels of potatoes and planted 12 trees and shrubs. Health was stressed by daily health practices.

Members in 1951 were Pat Zolnierczyk, Neil Froeming, Virginia and Richard Zikan, Tommy Kempen, Louis Banyai, Susanne Banyai, Barbara Benyai and Mary Jean Banyai. Besides Telma Froeming the following were project leaders: Susan Banyai, Pat Zolnierczyk and Louis Banyai.

Some of the special activities the club participated in were Dairy, Speaking Contest, club booth at fair, Sewing, Demonstrations, Farm Safety, and Dress Revue.

1954 - Telma Froeming said "The club was still going, but I have no records of particular events that I could find.

1985

PENNINGTON

Not too much is known of the Pennington 4H Club though through memories of some, we can tell you that the club existed in the 1920's and 1930's. It was one of the first clubs organized in the county, when H.J. Ramlow was the County Agent.

The club was quite large with 20-25 members. Some of the members were Lydia, Cecelia, Helen, and Josephine Tomasik, Martha Matike, Phyllis and Ethel Mae Blakely, Helen Peters, Imogene and Norma Whitby, Mabel Pearson, Eleanor Bendixen, Sophia Beaumont, and Gladys and Linda Ovans. Perhaps there were some boys but memory does not list any.

They were active in many projects and also took part in County Demonstration Contests, and members attended the 4H Camp which was held at the Fairgrounds beginning in 1926.

The club was probably active until the early 40's. Then in the late 40's a new club called the "Pennington Lamplighters" was formed.

1985

RAMBLERS

The Ramblers 4H Club started about 1940-1978. The leaders were Jack and Alberta Markley, with about 35 members.

Special Club Activities were Basket Socials, Square Dances, Drama and Singing, Window Displays, Dairy, Music, Gardening, State Fair Demonstrations, and Citizenship Shortcourse.

The Ramblers eventually combined with the Lucky Clovers in 1979 to form the Whispering Pines 4H Club.

1985

RESTLESS RASCALS

Restless Rascals 4H Club was organized in the late 40's or early 50's under the name of City Kids.

Mrs. Clarence Kreiling was the General Leader and in 1952 there were 14 members. In 1955 Mrs. James Bussey was General Leader and there were 16 members in the club. Both ladies also served as Project Leaders, and Milo Johansen was County Agent. Principal Projects were serving, Foods and Nutrition, and Home Furnishings as members were all girls. About 1956, Mrs. Glenn Williams became General Leader and the club changed its name to the Restless Rascals when members came from the area outside of the city. Boys were also a part of the club after that time.

In about 1975, Mrs. N. Dahlie and Mrs. L. Zorn took over the General Leader position for about 2 years when Mrs. R. Herman became leader for a few years. Then in 1979 Mr. and Mrs. Dale Meives took over as General Leaders and are the current leaders of the club. Some of the other Project Leaders throughout the years have been Mrs. Milo Johansen, Mrs. Orville Peterson, Mrs. John Baumgartner, John Zepczyk, Jean Williams, Rozanne Hilgart, Michael Peterson Mary Lynn Abraham and others.

At the present time members are in a wide variety of projects ranging from Dairying, Market Animals, all forms of Home Economics Projects and Exploring. The club membership averages about 30 and they are active in county projects such as Speaking, Drama and Music, Demonstrations, Dress Revue, Basketball and Softball Tournaments.

1985

SWEET CLOVER

One of the early 4H Clubs in Northern Price County was the Sweet Clover Club in the township of Lake. There were approximately twelve young people, from the rural area, who gathered together for meetings in the Sweet Clover school house. Later on the gatherings were held in members homes.

Carl Hartway served as leader of the dairy project and his wife Mary Hartway was leader in the gardening, sewing, and cooking projects. The children attended an area 4H Camp, the Park Falls Community Fair, and activities at Lake Galilee, Pidgeon Lake, and other lakes.

One project was the raising of a bull calf, funded by local businessmen, and given to a member of the club. Some members made pies, and sold them at socials to raise money for the Sweet Clover Club. The dairy project members visited local farmers' herds to judge cattle. Evergreen trees were planted as wind breaks on the members' land.

Al Peterson, County Agent in the 1940's, helped establish the Sweet Clover group, and later William Rogan guided the young people in their aims for the future.

WHISPERING PINES

The Whispering Pines 4H Club was from 1979 to 1981. Club leaders were Sherb and Ginger Mabie. The club had between 10 and 40 members.

Some of the special club activities were a club craft day held in January, a Halloween Party and Haunted House in October, and a 4H Booth at the Fair. In 1981, the club won a Special Merit Award. There was also a Citizenship Shortcourse held in Washington, D.C. that Beth Brayton and Kay Brayton attended on behalf of the Whispering Pines Club.

1985

WILSON WORKERS

The Wilson Workers 4H Club was organized in the town of Spirit about 1943 or 1944 when the original Spirit Club Busy Beavers had grown to a membership of 60. George Oman consented to be leader. Regular meetings were held twice a month at the Spirit Town Hall with 20 members. In 1945, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Johnson took over as leaders. In 1946 the girls were fortunate to have an additional leader. Mrs. Walter (Marge) Johnson became interested when her daughter became a member.

Regular meetings were scheduled for the 3rd Monday of each month at the Wilson School. Girls project meetings were the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, and the boys project meeting was on the 1st Monday. All ages were represented with 10 members enrolled in Junior Leadership. Many parents attended all the meetings. One meeting during the year parents were elected officers for that night. The Spirit Fair had 7 clubs exhibiting in 1949 with 37 girls entering the Dress Revue.

In 1954, Mrs. Harold (Grace) Rhody took over as girls' leader. Harold had been a charter member of the Busy Beavers and Grace was a member of the Hillbillies Club when her mother Lillian Blomberg was leader. In 1955 Ronald Meier moved from the Busy Beavers to the Wilson area and took over the General Leadership from Ed Johnson. Mrs. Paul (Illmi) Nelson began as girls leader as their family became of age, and Mrs. Dan (Matilda) Nelson also was an assistant leader.

Many families have been very helpful during the past 40 years, some serving as project leaders although some have never received any formal recognition for a job well done.

In spite of all the school activities and other places for the young folks, the club has maintained a membership of about 15. The Market Animal project has been popular with several families the past few years.

1948 4H ENROLLMENT

Big Elk Badgers	22	Hillside	17
Brantwood Badgers	25	Johnston Beavers	10
Bustling Bees	17	Kaiser Kids	15
Busy Beavers	19	Knox Mills	13
Camp Merrill	16	Lakeside	16
Enterprise	15	Larkin	19
Far View	7	Little Elk	18
Flambeau	16	Loyal Workers	15
Four Square	18	Lucky Pennies	11
Friendly	23	Pershing Peppers	9
Hackett Hustlers	25	Pioneer	6
Handy Hands	6	Riley	15
Happy Hands	8	Riverside	10
Helping Hands	25	Shady Knoll	8
Highland Hustlers	17	Spirit Center Badgers	16
Hillbillies	23	Wilson Workers	34
		Worcester Boosters	15

Clubs - 33; Total Enrollment - 529; Leaders - 65; Junior Leaders - 31.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

About 1960 - Service Surpassing Century Mark -- Combined, these five people total 129 years of leadership and service with the Price County Extension Office. They are: Ron Meier - 25 years; Mrs. Bill Brayton - 22 years; Alberta Markley - 26 years; John Markley - 26 years; and Mary Rasmussen - 30 years.

No Date - 4H Leaders Honored - Special awards were given 4H Leaders of Price County for their many years of service. Awards are made by the home agent, Mrs. Hazel Crook, at a recognition luncheon given by the Phillips Rotary Club. Receiving the awards are Mrs. Arthur Rasmussen for 11 years of leadership in Camp Merrill Club; Roy Meier of the Busy Beavers Club of the Town of Spirit - two diamond point pins for 20 years leadership, and Mrs. Rodney Sutton of the Big Elk Badgers for 11 years leadership.

1960 - Francis Lewandowski, assistant county agent in Price County, presents a camp award to Jean Williams, member of the Restless Rascals 4H Club of Phillips for all-around achievement. Others not pictured, who received such awards are Donna Lind of the Busy Beavers of Spirit, and Jen Ann Kirchmeier of the Four Square Club, Prentice. Another award for forestry was given to Michael Meier, Spirit Busy Beavers, awarded by the Price American Legion Auxiliary.

1961 - Price County 4H Members Honored - These Price County 4H Club Members received awards as district winners at an Achievement Night program in Phillips. These people are Franklyn Rasmussen for the Poultry Award Winner; Sandra Sutton for the Home Furnishings; Mary Margaret Hoffman for Clothing and Achievement; Allan Johnson for Photography; and Fred Tom for Field Crops; also Hollis Havill alternate in the speaking contest.

No Date - 4H Leaders Honored at Banquet - Mr. and Mrs. John Markley received acknowledgement from Don Sutton for the 56 collective years they have worked with the Price County 4H program as leaders. Both Mr. and Mrs. Markley began working with the "Riley" 4H Club in 1948 and continued with the Ramblers, Lucky Clover and Whispering Pines clubs until their retirement, respectively, in 1978 and 1976.

With Elaine Ulrich's help, she has come up with as many of the 4H Club names as possible. They are as follows:

A.A.A.	Arbutus Hill	Arnold
Be Square Girls	Big Elk Badgers	Bluejay Sewing
Bluejeans	Brantwood Buckaroos	Bronco Buddies
Bustling Bees	Busy Badgers	Busy Beavers
Busy Fingers	Camp Merrill	Catawba
Catawba Peppers	City Kids	Countryside
Crane Chase	Crazy 8's	Duroy
East Highland	Edgewood	Enterprise
Explorers	Far View	Fifield
Flying Needles	Forest Vale	Four Corners
Four Leaf Clover	Friendly	Green Acres
Green Thumb	Hackett Hustlers	Handy Hands
Handy Helpers	Handy Maids	Happy Hoboes
Happy Home	Happy Hustlers	Harmony Harmonizers
Hartmann	Highland Hustlers	Helping Hands
Hillbillies	Hillside	Hilltoppers
Jolly Hour	Jolly Workers	Joyful Co-ops
Jump River Ranchers	Kaiser Kids	KC Clover
Knox Mills	Lakeside	Lakeside Boosters
Lakeside Chums	Lakeside Loyalties	Larkin
Leavitt Busy Bees	Little Chicago	Little Elk
Lone Pine	Lonely Willow	Long Lake Beavers
Looking Forward	Loyal Workers	Lucky 13
Lucky Clover	Lucky Penny	Lugerville J.F.R.

Maple Grove
Merry Workers
Nature Lovers
Old Mill
Peppy Parkettes
Pinewood
Prentice J.F.R.
Ramblers
Riley
Solberg Hayshakers
Sunnyside
Sweet Clover
Wildwood
Woodland Echo

Merry Maids
Miller Road
North Fork
Park Falls
Pershing Peppers
Pioneer
Prentice Pioneers
Rattletrap
Seventy-Ettes
Spirit Badgers
Swanee River
The Sticx
Willing Workers
Worcester Boosters

Merry Makers
Muskieland
Northern Stars
Pennington
Pine Grove
Pleasant View
Prentnox
Restless Rascals
Shady Knoll
Spirit Girls
Swede Hill
Whispering Pine
Wise Owls

MEMORIES

This is a tribute to some of the people who have contributed to the on-going 4H Program in Price County. These people are by no means the only ones who have helped me and countless others to grow up.

The Merry Workers 4H Club was rather short lived. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Witt were the general leaders. Mrs. Robert James was the sewing leader. After the Merry Workers dissolved, my sister and I joined the Lucky Clover 4H. Mr. and Mrs. Steve Walcisak, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Tegen, Mrs. Audrey Schonfelder, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Tegen were leaders. Somewhere along the way, Ginger and Sherb Mabie took over. When the Ramblers disbanded, the Whispering Pines Club was born, with Ginger and Sherb in charge. The Friendly 4H Club was a rival during the days of the Lucky Clover. The Raab's, Hauberts, and McCormicks were prominent in this club.

No account would be complete unless I mentioned some of the junior leaders who helped along the way. They were Lorrie Walcisak, Karen Williams, Patty Johansen, Karen Hartwig, sisters and cousins.

These are a few of the things I remember. Now I am a parent and a 4H Leader. We are still building floats, having parties, learning new things, and going to the "Fair".

Gloria Lyons

Mrs. Ruby (Sutton) Dryer remembers when she and her husband, Rodney, led the Big Elk Badgers Club for 16 years. One memory she has is how the club all worked together in doing things. Once the club made a window display showing examples of all the projects in the club. The boys in the Electricity Project had miniature poles, wires, transformer, everything. They won a blue ribbon on that one. Ruby says, "4H is a wonderful experience for both members and leaders".

Ariel (Lofquist) Peterson recalls first belonging to the Ogema Loyal Workers when it was organized by her teacher, Olga (Harrold) Meier. That was in 1929. Ariel continued as a member and lead the club as a Junior Leader for a number of years. Later Mrs. Signe McCarty, a teacher, was our leader. When no other teacher wanted the leadership, I kept the club together as a Junior Leader as long as I could still be a member. In later years we were in projects of Home Improvement, Baking, and Canning as well as Sewing. We entered our work at the Price County Fair in the 4H building which then stood where the log school is now standing.

Phyllis (Blakely) Kozlowski remembers her days in the Pennington 4H. She and her sister Babe (Ethel) represented Price County in the Demonstration Contest at the State Fair. She also remembers 4H Camp at the fairgrounds. A special person, there was the Naturalist, Mr. William McNeal. He was also known as "Ranger Mac" to the school kids of the 40's. It was a real experience for a couple of farm girls that many years ago. We accompanied our Extension Agents to Madison for several large gatherings during our 4H years as members. We also showed cattle, sewing, canning, and vegetables at the County Fairs in Phillips, and won many ribbons. Phyllis helped to organize the Hillbillies 4H Club in 1939 when she was a teacher in the town of Hill. I was also very active in leadership of a 4H Club at Norlin School in the town of Hill when I was a teacher there. I still always go to view the 4H Displays at our State Fair in Tampa, where I have lived for 40 years. Many things have changed. I credit 4H with a good foundation of my life, and I still teach and work with children. Congratulations!

William Beaumont recalls being a member of the Pennington Club in the 20's. Later he became the leader of the club when his son George, and daughter Beverly were members. Bill remembers going to the State Fair in 1929 to show a calf. The calf was the top Jersey at the County Fair and belonged to a fellow club member, Ethel Blakely. Mr. and Mrs. L.R. Blakely were the first leaders of the Pennington Club.

Roy Meier led the Busy Beavers Club for 30 years. Harvey and Harold Rhody had started the club in 1936. Roy became the adult leader in 1940 when his son Ron became a member. At first it was just a boy's club, but when his daughter Marilyn became old enough she said, "If boys can be in 4H, girls should be too". Members in the club were Ron Meier, Arlen, Andrea, and Jim Rhody, also Leslie Schmidt. These members did such a good job, that the next year many more wanted to join. Soon the club took in even more than the town of Spirit! So from then on the club grew in number. It reached 60 members and then two more clubs were formed in Spirit, The Spirit Center Badgers and The Wilson Workers.

Joe Vojtech was the leader of the Happy Hackett Helping Hands. Later this club became the Enterprise Club. He recalls his boys taking calves to the fair. A extra nice garden that one of his boys (Robert Peterson) grew, is another memory. Joe was awarded a trip to the State Fair. He thinks one of the great things about 4H was it gave the country kids a chance to get together to learn and have fun.

Jack Markley and his wife, Alberta, led the Ramblers 4H Club for 30 years. He remembers Bill Rogan as the County Agent when they started. Four of their members attended State Fair and two won trips to Washington, D.C. Some of their kids were in the State 4H Band and Chorus. Alberta was the cook at the County Fair for many years.

Mary Rasmussen was the leader of the Camp Merrill Club for 40 years from 1945 to 1985. She remembers making a hi-way safety sign as you enter the town of Elk. This was part of the Safety Project which made them the top winner of Safety in Wisconsin. Six club members and leaders made the trip to Milwaukee to receive the trophy. Their club also did fun things like swimming and square dancing. Some members were County Demonstration winners and won trips to the State Fair.

Eleanore Williams was a leader of the Restless Rascals for 30 years. She recalls many fun things the club did; Halloween Parties, Minstrel Show, Gay 90's musical group. The club was active in Speaking and Demonstration contests. Several members won special awards. One of her memories is being Adult Manager of the Dairy Bar and working with the Junior Leaders. A special thing which they did when the work was done, Eleanore and all the kids would ride the Merry-Go-Round.

Loretta Henthorn was a leader for the Enterprise Club. There was a small club. She recalls a learning experience for her as well as the members when they worked on the Wild Flower Project. Her daughter Lynette was a top Dress Revue winner and attended the State Fair.

Mrs. Charles Kadow (Nelle Salmi) remembers when she was a member of Brantwood 4H in 1927 for several years. Our cheesemaker's wife was our great Leader, Mrs. Dick Rjakema. It was the greatest organization you could be a member in. We learned so much about canning, sewing, gardening, and raising farm animals. We were of great help to our parents. We enjoyed our demonstrations at Phillips, also entering our projects at the County Fair. It would be a great experience if all children could belong to the 4H. I am now 73 and spend half a year in Florida and the other half in great Wisconsin. There are a few of the members from my group still living in the area, and do hope you hear from them.

Ruth Erickson remembers being a leader of the Camp Merrill Club. She says it was named after a Camp run by a family named Merrill. She was a leader from 1945 to 1985. The club had six to twenty-eight members at different times. Some of the projects that were popular in the club was Nutrition and Sewing, Agricultural Projects, Woodworking, Garden, Dairy, Sheep, Beef, Photography, Flowers, and many

Lucille Hardzinski was from the Kaiser Kids 4H Club. She remembers going to the State Fair as a member for the Demonstration Team in 1924, and the great thrill of going from Northern Wisconsin all the way to Milwaukee. As far as anyone can tell, the Kaiser Kids Club was the very first club started in the County.

Edith Hatina was a Leader of the Highland Hustlers 4H Club. It was a very active club participating in a lot of County Activities. Four leaders went to Washington, D.C. for the Citizenship Shortcourse, now called Washington Focus. I feel 4H is important in forming good values, and I'm happy to see that my grandchildren are involved in 4H today.

Frank Regner was a member of the "Pioneers" when it first began in 1929. He remembers the club mainly as a calf club. Frank especially recalls when he and his brother, John, each had a Guernsey calf. Frank's calf received a red ribbon, but he had trained it very well. His brother, being older, decided he would take that calf for the Showmanship Contest. There were about 35 showmen in the class and John won first place. The boys slept upstairs in the Dairy Barn at that time.

NOTEWORTHY DATES IN 4H HISTORY

These dates and events are copied from the minutes of "Special Committees on Agriculture". The first minutes are dated September 24, 1917.

OCTOBER 29, 1917- "First mention of a "Boys and Girls Club". The potato exhibit from the Boys and Girls Club was recommended for exhibition at the Madison Potato Show".

APRIL 20, 1921- Chicken and Calf Clubs have been organized at Catawba, Phillips, Prentice, and at Hartmann School.

NOVEMBER 22, 1926- Some of the projects discussed were: Boys and Girls Clubs such as Calf, Pig, and Potato Clubs. A Boys and Girls Camp to be held in Price County sometime during the summer.

JUNE 1, 1927 - There are 80 members in the Calf Clubs. A few members belong to Sewing Clubs. 123 boys are enrolled as Junior Forest Rangers. A Boys and Girls Camp was held at the Fairgrounds last August.

DECEMBER 15, 1927 - Boys and Girls Club work: Poultry, Calf, Canning, Sewing, and Forestry Clubs have been commenced.

JUNE 6, 1928 - This is the first time that the Boys and Girls Club are referred to as 4H Clubs. Included in the outline of the program for 1928-1929 are 4H Club Tour and Picnic, 4H Camp, and 4H Achievement Day.

NOVEMBER 2, 1929 - It was decided that a carload of calves be exhibited next fall by the 4H winners at State Fair.

NOVEMBER 8, 1930 - Goals for 4H Club work: 250 members; conduct Club Camp if 100 reservations can be secured.

NOVEMBER 7, 1931 - Goals for 4H Club work: 400 members; add a sheep project, and conduct a Club Camp.

NOVEMBER 7, 1933 - Work accomplished in 4H: 439 members, 29 clubs, and 128 members exhibited at the County Fair.

NOVEMBER 6, 1934 - 4H Goals set for 1935: Maintain high standard of achievement, hold leadership conference, cooperate with Fair Committee.

OCTOBER 26, 1937 - 308 members enrolled in 26 clubs. 49.8% achievement as compared to 32.3% in 1935.

NOVEMBER 1, 1938 - Total number of 4H Clubs is 21 Clubs with 309 members.

NOVEMBER 7, 1939 - At present there are 409 members as compared with 309 a year ago.

OCTOBER 26, 1940- 4H goals set for 1941: Hold Leaders Conferences, enroll 400, achievement at 70%, emphasize school forest work, food, clothing, poultry, garden, forestry, and food preservation.

OCTOBER 3, 1941 - Miss Pollack, Home Demonstration Agent, was called on to explain the situation in counties with 4H Home Agent and the type of work.

MARCH 31, 1942 - Goal: Emphasize projects which contribute to the war effort.

NOTE: This book contains no minutes between October 21, 1942, and March 10, 1945.

MAY 21, 1945 - Eight new 4H Clubs. Total County enrollment of 311, an increase of 30 members. Club Camp will be at Pigeon Lake.

DECEMBER 6, 1945 - New activities planned for 4H Clubs: Poultry project sponsored by the businessmen. Garden project with stores giving seeds and some plants.

SEPTEMBER 11, 1947 - 4H Club work is included in the budget in the amount of \$150.00.

OCTOBER 7, 1948- The 4H Club enrollment was the greatest in the history of the County, namely 529. The inadequacy of the building facilities at the Fairgrounds was discussed.

JULY 18, 1950 - The present 4H enrollment is 603, the largest in the history of the county. In a five year period the membership has grown from 265 to 603. Price County has 37 Clubs.

AUGUST 9, 1951 - A slight drop in 4H memberships was reported, but there is good participation in all activities. A successful 4H Camp with 84 attending was held.

SEPTEMBER 22, 1952 - \$300.00 for 4H supplies is in the recommended budget for 1953.

FRIENDS OF 4H AWARD

- 1948 - Spirit-Hill Fair Board
State Bank of Phillips
William Rabenowich & Sons
- 1949 - Mrs. Irene Stark
W D Rogan
Flambeau Milling Company
- 1950 - Gambles Store
The Bee Office
Mrs. Emma Soetebeer (Walter)
- 1951 - Price Electric
Park Falls Ranger Station
Miss Hilda Hartmann
- 1952 - Park Falls State Bank
First National Bank of Park Falls
- 1953 - Central School District
Tony's Impelement Company
Roy Meier
- 1954 - Rotary Club
Kathryn L. Peterson
Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company
- 1955 - Ladysmith Milk Producers Co-op
Dr. H J Holmes
Albert Newman

- 1956 - Edgar S. Johnson
Rodney Sutton
Mr. William Milne
- 1957 - Milo V. Johansen
Mrs. Rodney Sutton
Mr. William McBain
- 1958 - Mr. & Mrs. John Markley
Dr. A D Lebeck
Arthur G. Johnson
- 1959 - Badger Breeders
Park Falls Herald
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Rasmussen
- 1960 - Radio Station WFPF
Mrs. Mae Barber
Mrs. Holger Peterson (Inex)
- 1961 - Pure Milk Products
American Legion Auxiliary
Mrs. Hazel G. Crook
- 1962 - Phillips Flooring & Lumber Company
Home Economics Room (Phillips High School)
D V Nusbaum
- 1963 - Mr. Bill Heath
Adrian Devriend
Trees for Tomorrow
- 1964 - Price County Board of Supervisors
Mr. & Mrs. Roy Helberg
Mrs. Victor Lasica
- 1965 - Chamber of Commerce - Phillips
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Sedovic
Mrs. Arthur Nelson
- 1966 - Hartway Dairy
Mrs. Glenn Williams
Mrs. James Slowey
- 1967 - Mr. & Mrs. John Hoffman
Donaldson's Store
Flambeau Paper Company
- 1968 - Wisconsin Wood Products
Mrs. William Nachtrab
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Walcisak
- 1969 - Mr. & Mrs. Carl Hatina
Mr. Gerald Krahl
Mr. John Weinzinger
- 1970 - Mr. & Mrs. Alec Hardzinski
Mr. & Mrs. William Brayton
Gordon Dahlie
- 1971 - Mr. & Mrs. Don Sutton
Mrs. Milo Johansen
Mrs. Eugene Gannon

1973 - WNBI Radio

1974 - Joan Benoy

1975 - Mr. Tom Hoffman, Jr.
Mr. Richard Denny
Mr. Karl Mess

1976 - Richard Denny
Frank Jasurda
George Valiga

1977 - Rhonda & Gary Lilyquist
Dale & Fern Cory

1978 - Roy & Helen Meier

1979 - John & Alberta Markley

1980 - Laura & John Hoffman

1981 - Price County Town Mutual

1982 - WNBI Radio
The Bee
Lloyd Sipple

1983 - Diane Barkstrom
Sue Taft
Phillips IGA
Larry Tesmer
State Bank of Phillips

1984 - NONE

1985 - Park Falls Credit Union

1986 - NONE

1987 - Dale's Supermarket

1988 - Gustafson's IGA

1955 - Louise Rasmussen
1956 - Elizabeth Helberg
1957 - NONE
1958 - NONE
1959 - NONE
1960 - NONE
1961 - Mary Margaret; Ruth Hoffman
1962 - Hollis Theresa Havill
JoAnn Margaret Johansen
Gene Alan Meier
Franklin David Rasmussen
1963 - Sandra Louise Sutton
1964 - Wesley Meier
Edward Scheller
Lenore Terice Steinacker
1965 - Marilyn Hatina
Mary H.F. Sherman
1966 - Janice Helberg
Patricia Johansen
1967 - John Hardzinski
Suzanne Hatina
Karen Williams
1968 - Sharon Vicki Chase
Elizabeth Hardzinski
Marijane Hatina
1969 - Terry J. Dunbar
Suzanne M. Heindl
John H. Vanderhoof
1970 - Douglas Rasmussen
Joyce E. Vanderhoof
1971 - Susan Reese
Linda Utter
1972 - Paula Gengenbach
1973 - Kathy Rabusitz
1974 - Ellen Lueders
Sue Tegen
1975 - Cheryl Lueders
Cathy Stanke
1976 - Marvin Tegen
1977 - Debbie Hughes

1978 - Beth Brayton
Jim Walcisak

1979 - Karren Engel

1980 - Janet Sidenbender

1981 - Karen Anderson
Greg Fenzl

1982 - Beth Holoubek

1983 - Lucy Fenzl

1984 - Art Burkart
Mary Peterson

1985 - Eric Fenzl
Scott Sutton

1986 - Renee Lind
Amy Zellinger

1987 - Shanelle Zellinger
Renita Lind

1988 - Troy Kadlecek
Ruth Lind

PRICE COUNTY EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS HISTORY



As the role of the homemaker has evolved in the 20th century, so has the role of the Homemakers Clubs. Today's members span a vast array of professions, interests, family structures and needs. The clubs that serve this new breed of homemaker have undergone a transition that reflects those changes.

And yet, underlying it all is an emphasis on the importance and preciousness of the family unit and the home. No matter what their personal circumstances may be, their profession or lifestyle, there is always a place in everyone's life that is home. The nature of that place reflects one's talents and interests in the art of homemaking.

Turn back the pages of history to tell the story of Home Demonstration work in Price County, which was the beginning of the Extension Homemaker organization. It has had its ups and downs but has never died, because it had as its foundation, the desire of women to learn new and better ways of homemaking for their families. They felt this was the foundation needed for good family life and strong communities.

Shown above is the Extension Homemakers Emblem, originally known as the Home Demonstration Emblem, which was patented in November, 1936, and is composed of three concentric circles, which typify the state and the nation. The hearth fire in the center symbolizes the home and expresses the spirit of the finer attributes of the home, such as fellowship, hospitality, comfort, peace and protection. The oak leaf symbolizes the strength of the home; the lamp of knowledge stands for the wisdom with which a home and family must be created; the wheat represents productivity and richness of family and community life.

Around these symbols are the words, "Home, Family, Community" with "Cooperative Extension Service" in the outer circle, designating the cooperation of the county, state and nation in the extension program.

Early in the summer of 1912, nine women of the Kennan community met to organize what eventually became the OKGH homemaker club. The objective was the same as the future Home Demonstration clubs, that is, to maintain the best well-rounded life for their families and community.

During the horse and buggy days, the women and their families would gather on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. While the men settled the latest political issues, the women would discuss the finer arts of homemaking. The dues were 25 cents a year. Two social events were held each year, a family picnic on July 4 and a party during the Christmas holidays. They compiled a cookbook of members' recipes, made friendship quilts and knitted for the soldiers during the war.

Forty-seven years later, three of the charter members, Mrs. Mona Johns, Mrs. Lula Johnston and Mrs. Herman Stiehm, helped to write a history of the early years of Homemakers in Price County.

In the 1980's, the club still was having a special picnic in the summer, usually in August, visiting different area sites of interest such as Solberg Park, Big Falls and Timm's Hill.

Telma Froeming celebrated her 50th anniversary in the OKGH club in 1988. "I wouldn't trade the friendships that I've built in Homemakers during the last 50 years for anything. You really get to know someone when you work together, laugh and cry together through all the times in life. These are your true friends," she says. Telma notes there have been many changes in homemaking over the years she has been keeping house. The Homemakers club has helped her learn how to use the new appliances and inventions most efficiently and to best advantage. Information learned through the club also helped her and her husband to shop wisely for the new products.

There was no running water in Telma's first house. An ice box, not a refrigerator, kept food cold. The myriad of electrical kitchen appliances now commonplace were not yet invented. Electricity was being extended into the rural areas.

Community service is another cornerstone of the Homemakers organization. The OKGH club support the Ronald McDonald House in Marshfield, for example. "When someone in the community is ill or there's been a death in the family, we make a meal or help out however we can. If there's been a fire, we make a quilt or give a donation to the family to help them get started again," Telma says.

Telma also loves to garden. She has done chalk drawings and other artwork to sell. Her rosemaking and art pursuits began after seeing demonstrations by guest artists at Homemakers. "I have a feeling I would be sitting now without a hobby if it weren't for Homemakers. I love to do rosemaking. The time just flies when I'm busy doing my rosemaking. I know I never would have just tried something like that on my own", Telma notes. She has two children and several grandchildren.

In 1920 a request was made through the county agriculture agent for information and help from the University of Wisconsin on homemaking problems. Miss Melitta Hines came from Madison to Kaiser and organized the Kaiser Homemaker club which is now called the "Good Cheer" club. She stayed in the county a few days organizing five clubs and giving demonstrations on the management of farm and home and the making of clothes. Mrs. Joe Gropp and Mrs. Dick Olson, charter members in the "Good Cheer" club, were still active members forty-seven years later.

"Home Keepers" was the name chosen for a club organized in 1924 in the community east of Prentice. This name was chosen because it was easier to make a home than keep it after it was made and their aim was to be "homekeepers". Later they changed their name to "Friendly" Homemakers, their aim "To make the home a better place to live in and really enjoy life at the same time". There were still three active members of the original 12 charter members in 1959.

Interest in the Friendly club has run high throughout the years with active participation in all the project meetings and giving help to community activities. One of the community activities undertaken was

the remodeling of the club house, the former Lone Corner School, about 1950. With the help of their husbands they remodeled and painted the inside, and planted shrubbery outside to make the building more attractive. In cooperation with the Four Square 4-H club they paid for the lights, insurance and upkeep on the building, giving them a meeting place for community activities. The building was sold to Francis Lind about 1983.

Also in the year 1924, Miss Hart from the University came to the north part of Price County to interest women in Home Demonstration clubs. Mrs. James Mencl attended this meeting and as a result the "Sunshine" Homemakers club was organized in Lymantown. Three of the charter members, Mrs. Brokl, Mrs. Horalek and Mrs. Mencl were still active members around 1959. Through the years several members of this club have attended state meetings at Wausau, Green Lake and Menomonie and national conventions at Boston, Washington, D.C., Texas and Kansas.

About this time was the beginning of center meetings, one at Fifield and one in Prentice. Clubs would send project leaders to these meetings which were conducted by personnel from the University. Miss Wealthy Hale and Miss Ida Patterson conducted four meetings on Home Management in 1925. By the late 1980's, center meetings were being held in Park Falls, Fifield, Phillips, Prentice and Kennan-Catawba. Leaders and representatives from individual clubs attend regional center meetings for planning county-wide programs and for information to disseminate to their clubs.

Early in January of 1930, a group of women met at the Lake Ten school to organize a Home Demonstration Club and called themselves the "Busy Workers". Later the name was changed to Harmony's Happy Homemakers or the "3-H Club". Three of the charter members, Mrs. Kathryn Hladish, Mrs. Karen Kralicek and Mrs. Regina Soetebeer were still active members in 1959. Through the years they had learned from their project lessons how to get the most bread by choosing the best flour, knot tying of scarves, assorted rug making, refinishing furniture, how to make furniture cleaner and polish, fitting a basic pattern, making clothes over and basketry. One of the early projects was how to make bias tape. Community activities have been many, among them assisting with 4-H clubs and local school community clubs in helping youth of the community.

To express the aim of this group Kathryn Hladish suggested the following: "You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give. There are those who give little of the much which they have and give it for recognition and their hidden desires make their gifts unwholesome. And there are those who have little and give it all. They are believers in life and the bounty of life and their coffer is never empty. There are those who give with joy, and joy is their reward".

In 1931 there were sixteen organized Home Demonstration clubs in Price County and under the leadership of Miss Ruth Peck from the University of Wisconsin they decided to become a member of the state organization. The clubs then became part of the University of Wisconsin-Extension outreach system. That year emphasis was on clothing and eight meetings were held at three centers in the county.

Four charter members of the Jolly Homemakers club, Mrs. Matthew Cork, Mrs. William Goth, Mrs. Victor Lasica and Mrs. John Regner remembered September 1934 when their club was organized. Their first project lesson was baking bread, demonstrated by Miss Mary Brady from the University.

From the same recipe, many years later, Mrs. Victor Lasica won first prize and the King Midas Award at the Price County Fair on her loaf bread. In the early days, project leaders from the Jolly Club used to hitchhike to Prentice to get lessons to bring back to other members and to pass on the information to other women of the local community. The Jolly Homemakers ceased to function in 1987.

Happy Hostess Homemakers were organized in 1934 also. Throughout the years they have aimed to help families in the neighborhood and surrounding area. They have helped families in time of sickness, and others where fire has destroyed the home. When a tornado struck in the area, they organized a clean-up day to clean up the debris and served lunch to all the people who worked. They disbanded in 1964.

In December, 1935, the Hackett Homemakers club was organized with 13 charter members. Two of those members were still active in 1959. Besides taking part in project work this group sent members to Farm and Home Week in Madison several years, it urged women to vote, and sent boxes of cookies to boys overseas. In cooperation with the G.A.B. Homemakers club, an annual community Christmas party used to be held at the Enterprise school. The club disbanded in 1982.

Each year specialists from the University came into the county to give project lessons. The theme for the year 1936 was "Living Well on the Farm" with lessons in bread-making, canning, preservation and storage of fruits and vegetables, gardening and home beautification. By this time there were 22 clubs with 422 members. The next year food and health was stressed with lessons on preparation of well-balanced meals. Home furnishings was the theme the next year and in 1939 clothing was studied.

The "Knox" Homemakers were organized in the Brantwood - Spirit area in 1937 with the first meeting at the home of Marge Christianson Johnson with 29 members present. One of their projects was quilt-making and many quilts were donated to the Red Cross. They also made a book of household hints to raise money. They ceased operation in 1986.

In the fall of 1939 the Home Arts club in the city of Phillips was organized. Eventually this group divided and became the Priscilla Homemakers and the Progressive Club. The Progressive Club is no longer active. Miss Hilda Hartmann was the only charter member of the Priscilla Club in 1959. Through the years members have helped with cancer bandages, made comforters and knitted for the Red Cross and helped with child health centers. Members of their club rejuvenated the drapes on the stage in the Normal School gym. Their club was instrumental in getting weekly garbage collection in the city of Phillips.

Pauline Chinnock joined Homemakers the year she was married, in 1953. In the early years of their marriage, Pauline and her husband, Howard, moved several times. Homemakers provided a means of getting

acquainted in each new community and making new friends. Upon moving to Phillips, Pauline joined the Priscilla club.

"Every month we have a lesson on something different. I don't know what I would have done without Homemakers. I've learned so much over the years," she says.

"My mother used to tell me it was important to keep busy - to have things to do around the house. When my children were young I didn't understand what she was talking about. Now that my children are grown, I've gotten more and more involved in my crafts. I understand now what she meant," Pauline points out.

Pauline knits, sews, crochets, does beadwork and has "dabbled in" cake decorating and candy making. A vest she knit for her husband won first place at the county fair one year. The Homemakers and the Extension have been an important source of information for her projects. "I've used the Extension Office a lot. If they don't have the information, they'll get it. Our tax money goes to support it. I think we should use it," she says. Pauline is the mother of four and also has several grandchildren.

During World War II project emphasis was placed on gardening and food preservation. Home Demonstration clubs assisted the county nurse in establishing and conducting home nursing courses. They passed on information on health and nutrition to other homemakers in the county.

The year of 1945 was an outstanding one, because the first county home agent, Miss Merle Stoughton, was hired. This meant more help on a county level for all home economics work under the extension service. She organized new clubs and worked with girls in 4-H projects. Miss Stoughton resigned in 1948 and Mrs. Irene Stark became the home agent.

In October of 1948 Silver Creek club was organized, and the following year Ambitious and Sunnyside clubs were begun.

The Ambitious Club still had four of its charter members, Miss Elizabeth Dunn, Mrs. Gordon Dunn, Mrs. Edward Dunn, and Mrs. Clara Vokoun in 1959. Activities have been window displays in stores in Prentice, donating to charity funds, and working with the county nurse on community health programs. For many years they never missed a project training meeting.

Sunnyside Homemakers worked together until 1956. The following year they reorganized under the name of Town and Country. They sent two different leaders to each project meeting and have been active in charity in the community.

Miss Elizabeth Maki became home agent in September of 1949 and the following year she became Mrs. Kessel, but stayed on as home agent until June of 1951 when Kathryn Peterson became home agent.

Many new clubs were being organized. A few of the members of the Progressive Club formed a new club in 1950 which they called the "Moderne" Homemakers Club. Two of the charter members, Mrs. Eugene Barber and Mrs. Jack Gunnon were still active members in 1959. They were active in community affairs such as helping with mobile X-ray

units, sewing cancer bandages and giving Christmas baskets to the needy, besides regular project work.

In 1959 the Hawkins Road Homemakers, which was organized in September, 1950, still had active, ten of the original 13 charter members. Projects they were interested in included color in the home, braided rugs, casserole dishes, basic sewing and dairy products in metals. Each year a family picnic was held.

Charter members of the "Busy Workers" Club, also organized in 1950, that were still active in 1959, were Mrs. Martin Nelson, Mrs. William Bomberger, Mrs. Ralph Welty, Mrs. Ray McDonald and Mrs. James Mencl. Their most outstanding lessons were in foods and nutrition.

The year 1951 brought two more clubs, Happy Circle, organized in February, and G.A.B. (Gals and Babes) in October.

Mrs. Anton Norek and Mrs. George Vey are the charter members that were still active in the "Happy Circle" Club in 1959. Since belonging to a Home Demonstration Club, their members have had a wide range of activities, ideas and helps to a better way of living and have made a host of new friends throughout the county. The annual picnic for their families is one they look forward to each year. One project they particularly liked was outdoor cooking.

The G.A.B. chose its name because of the number of children in the group. At this time in history, there were 14 members and 44 children. They had a rule in their club that each member must take her turn holding each office and no member could hold an office twice until all had had a turn. Each year the members participated in putting on a Christmas party for the community.

In February, 1952, the "East Highland" Homemakers Club organized from a group of six members, five of which were still active in 1959. This group had grown to a membership of 17 in 1959. One of the most active community projects was raising money for the Southern Price County Hospital fund.

It has also sponsored the bookmobile, worked on the county census and charity drives. The members have made friendship quilts for each other and meet once a month to weave baskets. The annual social events include family picnic and a Christmas banquet for their husbands who are faithful babysitters during the Homemakers Club meetings throughout the year.

Joanne Rehbein, who joined East Highland in 1979, feared that she would no longer be welcome in the organization when she later divorced and became a single parent. Nothing could have been further from the truth, she said, pointing out that she was chosen for the club's highest county-wide office, Price County Homemaker Executive Board President, in 1988.

Three more clubs were organized in 1952, "Relaxing, Friday, and Workbasket". Six of the Relaxing Club charter members were still active in 1959. They have enjoyed the many projects throughout the years. One of the regular community activities is the making of cancer dressings, besides giving help to neighbors and other

charitable organizations. For additional fun they have "Make it Yourself Roll Calls" such as Easter Hats, Valentines, place cards and table decorations.

The Friday Club members first called themselves the Tuesday Homemaker Club but when they changed their meeting day to Friday, they also changed their name. Seven of the charter members were still active in 1959. They attended all center meetings and special interest meetings. Projects they enjoyed were metal work, making a Ming Tree, cake decorating, textile painting, basketry, tailoring, upholstering, braided rugs, outdoor cookery, bread and rolls and wild flowers.

The Workbasket Homemaker Club was very active for several years attending center meetings and county meetings. Many of the members went to work and others had small children so they became less active, but still kept their club organized for a time because they were all interested in home demonstration work.

The year 1953 was a milestone for Price County when the county Homemaker chorus was organized. Miss Ruth Bullus was the director. The following year Miss Helena Torkelson became director. Mrs. John Olski was the accompanist. The chorus performed at many local functions and sent members to Farm and Home Week to sing in the State Homemakers Chorus for four years. At that time it had 27 members.

The year of 1954 was the peak year for Home Demonstration work in Price County. There were 44 organized clubs with a membership of 600 women. Two new clubs were organized that year, "Carefree and Liberty Belles".

Four of the original seven charter members were still active in the Carefree club in 1959. They sewed cancer bandages and worked on many charity drives in the town of Elk. Besides regular projects which they enjoyed, they had other projects. One year at each meeting, each member had a turn to pass along her favorite recipe to other members. Another year one member taught the others to knit. At the end of each year they took their husbands out to dine and dance.

A group of women down in the town of Spirit met in October and organized the "Liberty Belles" Club so they could take advantage of the good material and information put out by the extension service. They enjoyed all their meetings and learned something new every meeting. One of their yearly activities was the Golden Age party for all the ladies in the community who have reached the age of 70. Mostly the Golden Age ladies entertain the members by singing at this dinner meeting. They loved to sing the old favorite hymns. A picture was taken of the group each year and sent to those who were present in a Christmas card. The Liberty Belles broke away from the Extension Homemakers in 1988.

Telma Froeming of the OKGH Homemakers Club, was on the very first committee for the very first Christmas Tea. The Tea was held in the Normal Building in the 1950's when Kathryn Peterson was the Home Agent. The Homemakers make all types of homemade items and baked goods for display and sale at the tea. Punch and Christmas treats are served with recipes available. Demonstrations are done of various

arts and crafts. In later years this event was called the Holiday Tea and was held at the Phillips Armory and the Phillips High School.

A different theme was picked each year for the Holiday Tea. The following is a partial list of themes: 1989, "Holiday Keepsakes"; 1988, "Christmas Trimmings"; 1987, "Teddy Bear Christmas"; 1986, "Creating Christmas Magic"; 1985, "Christmas Memories"; 1984, "Christmas in Wisconsin"; 1983, "Country Christmas"; 1982, "Evergreen and Tinsel Time"; 1981, "Christmas Love Is Mak'n and Bak'n"; 1980, "There's a Song in the Air"; 1979, "Christmas Through the Eyes of a Child"; 1978, "Christmas in Many Lands"; 1977, "Handmade With Love"; 1976, "Old Fashioned Christmas"; 1975, "Christmas in the North Country"; 1974, "Old Fashion Christmas".

At least part of the proceeds from the Holiday Tea have been used to award scholarships to young people in Price County. A partial list of Homemaker Scholarship recipients follows: 1989, \$300 each - Lori Dural (Park Falls) and Jennifer Volkmann (Phillips); 1988, \$350 - Kenneth Jamros (Park Falls); 1987, \$350 - Mary Peterson (Catawba); 1986, \$350 - Susan Andrea (Ogema); 1984, \$300 - Gerald Wood Jr. (Ogema); 1983, \$300 each - Jean Anderson (Ogema) and Connie Jasurda (Phillips); 1982, \$300 - None; 1979, \$300 - Peggy Holoubek (Phillips); and 1977, Linda Zorn (Phillips).

Miss Kathryn Peterson who was married to the assistant county agent, Tom Brady, resigned in 1956. Mrs. Phyllis Pope was home agent from June 1957 until September 1, 1957, and Mrs. Joan Spears became home agent in September, 1957.

In November of this year the "Badgerettes" Homemaker Club was organized. This club was an outgrowth of women in Park Falls who had met each other at "Newcomers" Club. Wishing to continue their friendship and the interests in their homes and children, they decided a Homemakers Club would meet their needs. Eight of the 12 charter members were still active in 1959.

The "Merry" Homemaker Club was started in 1956 in the Township of Worcester and ceased functioning in 1960.

A very lovely table was purchased by the county Home Demonstration club members in 1958 and presented to the county board for use in the Normal Building.

"Watch and Help Price County Grow" being the theme in 1958 to 1959 saw the reorganization of the "Happy Hour" Club and organization of the "Pikettes" and "Emery" Homemaker clubs. Four members of the original Happy Hour Club decided to continue and get new members. In 1959 they had a membership of over 25 and were a very active club in Fifield.

The year of 1958 also brought a new home agent, Mrs. Hazel Crook, replacing Mrs. Joan Spears who resigned to become a full-time homemaker and mother.

In 1959 there were 35 clubs, with a membership of 497. This had been an active year. Working with the rural resource committee, Home Demonstration club members took a census of the county which was a

tremendous job, but one very well done. Two more tables were bought for use in the Normal Building.

Over the years many Homemaker clubs were formed and later disbanded, leaving few records for future historians to know about them. Some of these clubs were: Busy Bees, Park Falls; Creative, Phillips; Country Chicks, Ogema (formerly Hick Chicks); Northwoods Homespinnners, Brantwood - Tripoli; Rainbow, Kennan - Catawba; Sunshine Gals, Park Falls; Worcester Lake, Prentice - Phillips; Daff-O-Dillies, Park Falls; Novelty, Phillips; and Flambeau Bets, Lugerville.

The Homey Friend Makers club began in 1959 and then changed their name to Slenderella in 1962, due to the large number of members who were trying to stay trim, especially after childbirth.

Each club reflects the unique character of the combined personalities of its members. The Slenderella club promotes political awareness. Guest speakers are invited to address current issues. Club members discuss relevant city, county, school or other governmental topics. They then encourage each other to express their opinions and play an active role in shaping future decisions.

For all homemakers, from all varying perspectives and circumstances, one common thread repeats itself through their experiences. It is the camaraderie, the sharing of information and experiences, the emotional support that means the most.

"It's so helpful to know you're not the only one with kids going through whatever you're worrying about. The mothers of older children help, too, when they point out their kids went through similar things and everything worked out okay," says Sally Hill, who joined Slenderella in 1981.

With mostly working women attending the Slenderella meetings, Sally points out the emphasis in the programs has been more on easy crafts that can be done quickly, make-up and other image or appearance topics, and ways of combining the demands of family and job. The meetings, traditionally held in the afternoon, are more often held in the evening now for many clubs.

Health issues, particularly those affecting women, are often discussed. Dealing with aging parents is another topic that has become more relevant as people commonly live to more advanced ages, Sally notes.

Club members helped Sally cope with the transitions of young motherhood, and helped her adjust to the changes of her children growing up and leaving home. The wide range of ages in the club members provides a perspective on the continuity of life and the experiences of different phases in life.

"Right now women are in a hard position. We're caught in the middle. If we work outside the home, we still have to be the homemaker. If we don't have a job, we get criticized, too," Sally explains, adding that the support from and communication with other women can be very helpful in dealing with modern day pressures placed on homemakers.

"The sanitary landfill problems and recycling are two current issues of community concern. Who's going to teach our families awareness of these things and recycling practices? It's going to be the women, the homemakers. We need to be informed," Sally concludes in sharing her concept of the important role the Homemakers clubs play in contemporary society.

In 1983 the Happy Hearts Homemaker Club was formed in Kennan. Kathy Parpart, a young member with two small children, says membership in Homemakers brings a wealth of information and support in child-rearing and motherhood. For a new mother, the emotional support and general enthusiasm of the other members, particularly the experienced mothers, is invaluable.

Kathy worked outside the home full-time before her son was born in 1983. When invited to join the Happy Hearts club, she decided it was just the outlet she needed to maintain social ties and remain active in the community. Kathy now also has a daughter and is working outside the home part-time. Despite the increased demands on her time, Kathy says the information and social ties gained from the organization are too important to lose and she has continued her membership.

The administrative organization offers club members the opportunity to develop leadership abilities and public speaking talents and to gain experience in administration, Kathy adds. There are many training meetings, seminars and workshops held to help the officers and leaders develop the needed skills for their jobs.

Speaking of the annual tours taken by the Homemakers Kathy says, "It's a lot of fun to go off for the day with just women and do something special. These are the kinds of things most of us wouldn't have a chance to do otherwise."

Each year one of the centers is in charge of planning the Fall Tour. In 1988 the Homemakers took a charter bus to Eau Claire where they enjoyed lunch in a restaurant and a matinee performance of "Fanny Hill." Other trips have included a riverboat cruise on the Mississippi River near LaCrosse and a visit to the Renaissance Fair in the Twin Cities.

The first week in May is celebrated as "Extension Homemakers Week" with various activities usually planned in honor of the event. In 1984 the county Homemakers began to give a savings bond to the first baby to be born of Price County parents during Homemaker Week. The following is a list of recipients: Jenna Mae Peterson, born May 7, 1984, to Amy and Gerald Peterson of Park Falls; Jody Lynn Lontcoski, born May 6, 1985, to Mrs. Linda Lontcoski of Phillips; Allison Swarthout, born May 5, 1986 to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Swarthout of the town of Knox; Jennifer Peterson, born May 6, 1987 to Judith Wilhem of Catawba; Evan Olson, born May 1, 1988 to Tom and Linnea Olson of Phillips; and Ryan Joseph Roth, born May 9, 1989 to Jeffery and Wendy Roth of the Pike Lake area.

One county-wide project in the 80's is "Pennies For Friendship". Clubs collect pennies from their members and turn the money over to the county treasurer. This is sent to the national organization for an

international friendship program. Representatives from the United States visit other countries and representatives from abroad visit here under the exchange program. The goal is to promote international friendships and understanding as well as an exchange of ideas.

In addition to the county-wide executive board there are committees at the county level for various areas of interest. The committees work to provide information in specific areas and coordinate events appropriate to those areas. Joan Wywialowski of the Town & Country club, chaired the Health and Nutrition committee that held a Health Fair in June, 1988.

Gail Huycke took over as Price County Extension Home Economist in 1985. Her office is in the Normal Building where she coordinates and oversees all the activities of the various Homemakers clubs.

In 1989 there were 157 members in these 12 clubs: Catawba, (Catawba); Happy Hearts, (Kennan); OKGH, (Kennan - Catawba); Ambitious, (Prentice); Friendly, (Prentice); East Highland, (Township of Emery); Merry (Phillips); Happy Circle, (Phillips); Priscilla, (Phillips); Slenderella, (Phillips); Town & Country, (Phillips); and Good Cheer, (Park Falls).

As we look at the Extension Homemakers Emblem, again we are reminded of the purpose that brought a group of women together in 1912 in Price County. It is the home and its firm foundation that creates the desire in each of us to learn and work for better family living for our loved ones. May we continue to work together in local clubs and as a county unit.

THE FIRST 100 YEARS OF THE PRICE COUNTY FAIR

Less than a decade after Price County was first founded, the Price County Fair became an annual event. After learning of the Taylor County Fair, it was predicted that Price County's agriculture would advance and an agricultural society organized for holding an annual fair.

As early as 1881, Wellington McMullen and J.H. Fewell were known for their outstanding vegetable garden. In 1884, 1885, and 1886, there were vegetable exhibitions in the courthouse, along Front Street, in the town of Brannon, and Ogema. There were no premiums or added attractions. The site of the first fair is said to be The Phillips Times Office.

In 1886, many exhibits were sent to the State Fair in Milwaukee with the winning of two first prizes - one on beets by James McKinley and one on potatoes by Abe Eaton. The Price County Fair didn't just appear, it slowly grew until 1887, when the Price County Agricultural Society was formally organized. The first elected President was John Hand and the first elected Secretary was C.M. Gardner. The society's first fair held September 8, 9, and 10, 1887, at the courthouse was a success. On the courthouse lawn, there were stalls of horses, cows, and other livestock. \$500.00 in premiums were paid to a representative list of items, the forerunner of the current premium list. There were amusements such as horse races, boat races, log rolling contests, baseball games, and shooting matches; playing for a dance and throughout the three day fair was Arion's Orchestra of Oshkosh.

On August 16, 1888, forty acres were purchased from Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Donellon and Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Crowley, all of Chippewa Falls, for \$350.00. The land was located 3/4 mile northeast of Phillips and was accessible by road or boat. It cornered on the bank of the Squaw Creek and extended to the Elk River on the southwest corner. The contract to begin the clearing of the fairgrounds was let to John Rell for \$30 per acre. He was to clear 5 acres. The fair, hampered by bad weather, barely covered expenses. At a cost of \$700.61, the 1889 fair had 295 entries and paid \$162 in premiums.

The successful 1894 fair headed by President F.W. Sackett and Secretary E.W. Murray paid premiums at the time of judging. Educational exhibits, under the direction of C. Georgia Rever (Mrs. Souler) were begun in 1895. Mrs. W.P. Sperry was put in charge of the Ladies Art Building in 1900.

At the turn of the century, G.A. Andreae and M.A. Thayer led the thousand plus entries. There was no midway and the people came by horses or train to spend a day at the fair.

Horse races, which were often won by George Chamberlain, William Lowe, George Osterman and Abe Strom, and bicycle races were held and a grand harvest ball concluded the fair activities. Even then aggressive politicians took advantage of the large public gathering as a place to "get out the vote".

By 1905, the society was facing hard times and the county board offered \$1000 to help them out, but they refused; instead, businessmen met in the landman's, Mr. Tobey's office, and pledged \$2000 to support the fair. As a result, the society with its officers, held its most successful fair. Premiums were paid on horses, dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, goats, swine, chickens, grains, seeds, vegetables, textile fabrics, oil paintings, water colors, china painting, pyrography, wood carving, kitchen and dairy, fruits and flowers, education and horse racing. At that time, the suggestion was made to move the fairgrounds to Prentice, but no action was taken.

Major improvements at the fairgrounds were begun in 1906. Bidding to clear and grade a 1/2 mile track, and to build a 20 x 48 foot grandstand was accepted. In 1908, new sheep and hog pens were built. The county board appropriated \$1300 to purchase more land for the fairgrounds, as well.

Attractions during the first decade of the 20th Century were varied. In 1912, an airplane to be flown by Mr. Hantchel was sent by train, but didn't get to the fair in time. There were motorcycle, automobile, and mule races and balloon ascensions and in 1915, a "booster" parade of 22 cars advertised the fair throughout the county. In 1916, the Phillips band was hired for \$120.

Fairgrounds improvements continued when in 1917, the society requested and received \$500 from the county board to build a new education building. In 1920 the county board allocated another \$500 for the women's rest building, doubling the parking capacity and cleaning and disinfecting the fair buildings. Among the attractions in 1922, was an Army stunt pilot Lieutenant Conant who took passengers for \$15 each, a merry-go-round, and a midway with concessions. Kremer did such a great job, his salary was increased to \$500. Those were the rich years of the fair. The society even grew its own feed for the livestock to be exhibited and requested the county board to erect a stock pavilion. By 1924, the rich years had waned and a large deficit continued to build. However, despite hard times, the society offered a baseball purse of \$500 and \$50 cash prizes for the tug-o-war contest in 1927 and purchased rain insurance as well. Also at that time, all the buildings were painted white, windows put in some buildings, and the wooden fence started with 10 rods to

Joining the fair staff in 1973 were Margaret Kreiling and Kathrine Heizler.

In 1977 there was a lost arts display featuring talents from long ago on Saturday and Sunday afternoons of that fair. The grandstand was demolished, pine trees uprooted, and one small building knocked off its foundation during the July 4, 1977 downburst. The 1978 fair was an early one, held in Mid-July. A new grandstand was built that year. Senior Citizen's Day was begun in 1981 and open class exhibits were moved to the four-winged building with education exhibits in the new red metal building. Due to the Hee Haw Show booking of Grandpa Jones during the fair, the T.V. show substituted the Jim Ed Brown Show. Black Powder Shoots were begun that year.

By county board resolution of February 1981, a separate entity, the Price County Fair Commission, was created to develop and promote the Price County Fair. There would be six representative members of the county, one county board representative and a Secretary and a Treasurer hired by the seven remaining members.

Two years later, the fair commission requested and received control of the budget and the physical facilities at the fairgrounds on a two-year trial basis. Since then, the resolution has been renewed.

Perhaps some of the biggest changes in the fair are the less obvious ones, but there is always the hope that each year's fair will be bigger and better and to further attain that goal, the fair commission members have tried to further improve the fair with a variety of attractions, off-season use of the grounds for storage of boats, cars, and campers, and for private and public gatherings. In 1983 a fund raiser horse show and raffle were held and last year a raffle was also held. The county board has always supported these efforts and the residents of Price County have always and will always have a county fair that promotes its original purpose in our modern times as much as possible.

1985

In 1925, there were novelty horse races, a wrestling match, side shows, a Japanese troupe of hand balancers, and another Ford car was given away. Raffle tickets for the car were given away by one gas station in every town in the county. James Knight of Georgetown performed each day with his 6 running horses. A twenty-piece band from Brantwood played at the 1927 fair and exhibitors brought 128 head of cattle that year!

It rained the whole week of the 1928 fair. \$300 was allowed to gravel all the fairgrounds roads, make a double driveway entrance and continue building the fence.

With the increased support of the county board to the tune of \$2000, the fair began its second comeback of the 20th century and in 1930 there were nearly 10,000 entries.

The first fifty years can be summarized as many ups and downs. Twice the society's efforts to continue the fair were nearly abandoned. As plans for the Golden Jubilee Fair were being made, the county board presented the society with enough money to pay all its debts and make a fresh start for the next fifty years.

The next fifty years saw many changes. In 1937, the fair started Saturday, September 4 and ended Tuesday, September 7. In 1938 fair dates were changed to start on Friday, September 2, and end on Labor Day.

In 1939 an addition to the Agricultural Building, new poultry building and rebuilding of the stage was authorized at first, but as in 1938, it was postponed another year. Receipts at the 1940 fair were up. As of that year, there were 254 society members. Admission to the grandstand was \$.10. The poultry building was built and the addition to the Agricultural Building was again postponed. Twice in the 40's the fairgrounds flooded and fairgoers had to enter from the east on County H. It was terraced after that.

In the 1950's through the 60's, there were many officers of the county staff. Some of these people were Matt Gradinjan who became a director; President Arthur Johnson of Brantwood; and others of the fair committee.

The beginning of the sixties saw the beginning of many country-western type entertainers such as Kitty Wells, Judy Lynn, the Larry Robinson Show, Jim Ed Brown, Dave Dudley, Ava Barber, and a professional rodeo.

James Palmquist became the new Ag Agent in 1971 replacing Milo V. Johansen. Gretchen Podhora replaced Catherine Rusnak as a superintendent. The only change in 1972 was,