

ANNUAL
NARRATIVE REPORT

for

COCHISE COUNTY

January 1, 1964

to

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I. EXTENSION ORGANIZATION, PROGRAMING AND EVALUATION

Cochise County Homemakers Council

The Family Living program for homemakers of Cochise County is based on needs, interests and requests. A study of these requests and needs is made by subject matter committees and Homemakers Executive Council. This information is then relayed to the homemakers in the clubs and communities for further suggestions and reaction. Through this detailed study an education program is developed, aimed at helping the homemakers to be more efficient in decision making and in skills so as to improve their home-making and community service activities.

The overall planning committee for home economics work in Cochise County is called Cochise County Council of Homemakers. Each homemaker club is represented by two council members, president and secretary. Cooperating groups in the county are entitled to representatives to the County Executive Council. This is called the Executive Board and is charged with all policy making and business of conducting the program for all Cochise County homemakers. The County Homemakers Council is made up of all homemaker club members and decides on such matters as final county program as proposed by the Executive Board, County Council officers, etc. as outlined in the Cochise County By-Laws. Special subject matter committees are appointed in Clothing, Home Management, Home Furnishings, Foods and Nutrition to evaluate past programs, survey future needs and make recommendations for a 2-3 year long-time program. This is a long-time program planning method with priorities suggested and designed to help with current problems and to give depth to subject matter taught in the county. The home agents act in a professional advisory capacity, enlisting the help and suggestions of the subject matter specialist to develop a continuing program for organized groups, individuals, 4-H home economics work, special interest groups and mass media information.

F. Evaluation Techniques

No formal evaluation study was made in area of home economics in 1964. This had been done in 1962 and 1963 in Clothing and Home Management. The subject matter committees 3-year planning included 1964. A survey of past programs for planning future programs in the area of Home Management and Home Furnishings for 1965 will be needed as the 3-year planning period in this area ends in 1964.

Extension Program - 1964	Willcox	Bisbee Warren	Douglas	Elfrida	Sierra Vista	Sunizona	St. David	Benson	Cochise	Portal	Tombstone
Care of Hard Surface Floor Covering - LTM	X	X	X	X					X	X	
Food Makes The Difference-LTM	X	X	X	X		X			X	X	
Storage of Important Papers (repeat) a special program		X	X					X			
Business Center in the Home-LTM	X	X	X	X		X			X	X	
TOPS - special (weight control club)		X									
Furniture Refinishing Clinic by leaders		X									
Oven Meals-LTM	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Youth Programs in County - Agent taught	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cotton Dress Workshops - Special Interest	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
This Is Your Daily Life (Agent-Special meeting) (repeat)		X			X						
Record Keeping - Special Interest	X										
Fiber & Fabric Identification Special by Agent (repeat)				X							

II. EXTENSION INFORMATION

Home Fare

"Home Fare" coverage gains in readers response. Bisbee newspapers still have not accepted the weekly article but interest has increased in the other areas.

More and more response is received when special bulletins or special programs are mentioned. The Sierra Vista - Huachuca area has been very vague on Extension programs but has been well aware of the weekly article written by the home agents. An article on "Cotton Dress Construction" caused several requests to be received for a class in this area. This has developed enough interest for a new homemakers group to organize.

This column is an effective way to disseminate information among many people not reached by direct methods and serves to introduce the Home Agents and Cooperative Extension Work to people who do not normally participate in the programs offered.

In addition to this weekly column, home related information, special news releases are written when the occasion seems to call for them.

Homemakers Letter

Also a monthly homemakers letter is sent to a mailing list of 457 each month. Many receiving this by special request are not members of the homemaker clubs. This letter was discontinued during July and August this year and since being started again many homemakers have said how they missed it and were glad to have it started again.

Other

Other means of giving out information is by individual contacts, bulletin requests or special information sent from requests received by the home agents.

Y. FAMILY LIVING

A. Homemaker Clubs - Their Activities and Planning

Program planning in Cochise County is a continuous effort done by subject matter committees and the Executive Board of the County Homemakers Council. These groups, through questionnaires, club meetings and individual contacts find out the needs and interests of the homemakers in their communities and develop a program that is designed to meet these needs. The objectives of the County Council are:

1. To reach more young homemakers and other cooperating groups.
2. To develop a continuing program in areas where help is needed that will give depth to the subject matter taught.
3. To develop programs that will increase skills and ability in decision making.
4. To reach Cochise County homemakers in groups, by individual contacts, by special interests, classes and workshops and by mass media methods.

Facts that speak for themselves:

- 82 Leaders trained at subject matter leader training meetings. Many of these leaders serve on more than one project and have been instrumental in giving the material to other groups.
- 18 Leaders trained on program planning.
- 35 Leaders trained in TOPS program.
- 180 Homemakers trained in special interest classes taught by home agents.
- 43 Leaders taught in cooperating groups.
- 60 L.D.S. cooperators.
- 365 trained at Home Agent taught lesson.
- 3 Leaders held special clothing construction lessons for neighbors.
- 2 Leaders held special furniture refinishing workshops for 8 homemakers.
- 2 Leaders gave extra lesson on Storing of Important Papers to one L.D.S. group and one Woman's Club group.
- 3 Leaders taught Making Basic Patterns to 6 women in their neighborhood.

There is no way of estimating the number of individuals who received information from trained leaders and by the "trickle down" method. Many of these results can be traced directly or indirectly to the Homemakers Council and the strengthening of their program planning. Some of the gratifying results seen are:

1. More active participation of leaders and their willingness to give of their time and abilities to other groups.
2. Better attendance at leader training meetings.
3. Increasing number participating in special interest workshops.
4. Forming of three new homemaker clubs.
5. Large enrollment to receive special letter for young parents.

Good publicity is one objective of the Homemakers Council, publicity for the home economics program and to encourage greater participation of individuals and other organized groups.

The new club in Sunizona is now very active. It got off to a slow start but it's growth in interest and activities has been excellent due to the Cotton Dress Workshop.

Two other clubs were organized in 1964 that give promise of being strong interested groups. Sierra Vista Club has 8-10 members who are considered permanent residents of the area. The rest of their membership will no doubt come and go as personnel of Fort Huachuca changes.

St. David's group plans to expand their membership to Benson and Pomerene areas and have organized with 12 members.

Tombstone still remains to be developed. Several homemakers have expressed an interest in the program and much individual help has been given in the Tombstone area and much information dispensed by newspaper and bulletins.

Cochise County has been represented on the State Homemakers Council by Mrs. Betty Brown, County President, and Mrs. Twila Shelton, County Council Secretary. They have attended State Board meetings and done an excellent job in keeping council members informed of all state activities and projects.

The state project, "Beautifying Arizona" has proceeded slowly in the County. One county-wide meeting with Dr. Emily Hatch as guest speaker helped to stimulate some action.

Garbage cans have been placed in Douglas, Bisbee has planted some shrubs and flowers to beautify their streets, Rucker Recreation Area is being developed and a recreation area at Willcox has been started. These are county efforts, not Extension sponsored.

Two of the county schools, Willcox and Douglas, have agreed to learn and broadcast a song called "Litterbug".

B. HOME ECONOMICS INFORMATION AS TAUGHT TO HOMEMAKERS IN SUBJECT MATTER AREAS:

1. Home Management

It is a great satisfaction to see how training meetings and assistance given homemakers can mushroom and grow. This is especially true when leaders show their skill and willingness to hold meetings of their own to train other groups.

Four leaders trained in "Furniture Refinishing" clinics in 1963 have held clinics for neighbors and friends, and even husbands. In El Paso Gas Station area located in Kansas Settlement leaders held a clinic for four neighbors in one of their garages. Two leaders in Bisbee-Warren area held a clinic for young wives and friends. These groups were not large, but it shows how leaders can be trained to carry on a program with little or no extra help from the home agent. All these leaders have commented on the fact they really felt they learned almost as much as the women they helped. They have expressed their appreciation of help received to give them the ability and confidence to help other people.

Leaders have given the lesson on "Storage of Important Papers" to two other groups.

Business Centers in the Home

As a result of this lesson, four result demonstrations have been started. Not too much results can be shown at this time as the homemakers have reported they were "side-tracked" by need to can or freeze the large supplies of this years fruit and vegetables. They do indicate they intend to follow through with their plans.

Comments of Homemakers:

"A place of my own to really store bills, receipts, etc."

"I can actually locate business papers without hunting in a dozen places."

"How simple it really is to fix up a business center."

"My husband is as proud of our small business center as I am."

These and many more comments have been heard following up on the results of the leader training lesson on "Business Centers in the Home". So many homemakers seemed to appreciate that they did not need an elaborate place to do their household accounts, store their papers, etc. As a result of this training one homemakers group exhibited an inexpensive yet efficient home business center at the County Fair and received first place on their excellent exhibit.

Record Keeping

A special interest class has helped homemakers become better informed on how to keep adequate records. This class was requested by a group of homemakers in the Stewart area. They were interested in this from the homemakers viewpoint and requested Miss Corinne Stinson, Home Management Specialist, to assist with the classes. An awareness of this need developed from the lesson on "Storage of Important Papers" and from the lesson on time management, "This is Your Daily Life". This proves the need to develop depth in a subject matter area in order to meet the needs of the homemakers. The husbands were interested enough to ask for one evening meeting with both Miss Stinson and David Brueck, Extension Economist.

Many comments to the effect "my wife is sure making me report expenditures and bills I pay so she can record them", "keeping records makes more sense to me now that I can develop a system" are heard.

Two other areas have requested help on records and budgets, St. David and Sierra Vista, but due to changing home agents, it seems best to wait for these special interest lessons until a new home agent is established and knows the situation.

Care of Hard Surface Floor Coverings

This leader training lesson has been of great interest to the homemakers and leaders have repeated it to church groups, a Woman's Club, and one PTA group. Floors are a problem in this area where dust is such a factor. Also, with the new housing developments, it has been a question of type floors to install and upkeep of them.

This lesson was most effectively displayed by Border Homemakers Club at The Cochise County Fair in their exhibit booth. They displayed types of cleaner and waxes recommended, and gave out pamphlets on floor care. Their booth was a center of much interest during the Fair and they were awarded third place.

Since this exhibit two of their leaders presented the lesson to the Douglas Womans Club, again showing type of leadership developments to be found in the county.

2. Foods and Nutrition

Homemakers in Cochise County learn more on basic nutrition and meal planning. Project lessons selected by the Council were "Food Makes The Difference", "Health For Family Happiness" and "Which Weigh Lady". The last class was co-sponsored by Willcox Woman's Club and much stress was placed on weight and calories. One result of this class has been rather slow in showing up but a TOPS class is now being organized in Willcox. The home agent has been asked to assist in planning menus and in helping to check on nutritive value of the foods that low in calories. There was a meeting planned for October to get the enrollment started. Mrs. Chas. Wharton contacted people who had expressed an interest.

There is a TOPS Club in Bisbee with an enrollment of 3 and the members have requested and received help from Extension agents and Miss June Gibbs, Extension Nutrition Specialist, University of Arizona. A TOPS Club for men has tried to organize in Bisbee but this has not been successful.

Homemakers have reported they feel more confident in planning balanced and attractive meals. They say they are serving meals the family enjoys more and many feel by being careful to include basic four groups each day their family has not had so many colds or illness.

Oven Meals, planned around management of time and teaching more efficient use of the oven will be given to foods leaders in November. Miss Suzanne Guernsey will report of the results of this lesson later.

Extension Helps given in the Economy Program

Contacts have been made with the County Health nurses, Welfare case workers and County Welfare offices. Literature written in Spanish has been supplied to Welfare Offices in Douglas, Bisbee and Benson. This brought a request for more help for prospective mothers in the Douglas area.

A complete file of Home Economics bulletins has been placed in the Douglas office at their special request. They have also asked for help after the first of the year in teaching some nutrition classes. This will have to be carefully planned as many of their people do not speak English. They want the classes to stress and demonstrate ways of using the surplus food.

On the base at Fort Huachuca, the Health Nurse has expressed interest in nutrition classes for young homemakers. She has requested a planning conference with the home agent and says many of the homemakers she wishes to reach are the lower income employees and not the military personnel.

A start has been made in the Economy Program but it will need lots of followup work.

3. Clothing

Women become more efficient in basic construction through workshop participation. Women need to feel their clothing enhances their appearance and this has been one objective reached by the clothing workshops. They feel they look professional and are justly proud of their accomplishments. All in all 107 women attended nine workshops and 95 made basic patterns before making their cotton dress. Several women repeated this part of the workshop because their basic patterns needed adjustments. A few who had satisfactory basic patterns did not need to remake theirs, and five women did not wish to make a basic.

Only basic techniques in construction were taught and at least one-fourth of the participants had taken tailoring when it was taught in the county three years ago. When questioned as to their reasons for taking basic construction they replied they felt the need for a refresher course.

Many young homemakers and 4-H leaders were participants and their training was reflected in the improved quality of clothing construction by their 4-H members.

The leader training on "Designing from the Basic Pattern" has been well received and several leaders have reported the satisfaction they have had in presenting the lesson to their clubs. The report on the results of this lesson cannot be complete at this time but at least it has filled a much repeated request for help in use of the basic pattern and more results should begin to come in soon.

Two repeat lessons given by the home agent has been on "Selection of Childrens Clothing" and "Fiber and Fabric Identification". These lessons have been requested by Womens Clubs in Bisbee and Benson. The women heard of these from homemakers who were very high in their praise of the help they received from the training meetings. One club had their Cochise County Fair booth exhibit on "Fiber Identification" and the use of the tree with the genetic names, etc. was well done. This shows how results of a lesson can carry on through more than one years work.

One big result of the clothing program has been the development of leadership in all classes held. One to two leaders have assisted the home agents in each of the 8 workshops. Mary Price in Double Adobe, and Hazel Wilson and Pearl Parsons in Stewart community have held workshops with the Extension Office supplying them with materials such as bulletins and mimeograph lessons.

4. Family Life

Family Life, as a recognized part of the county program, is slowly developing. The response to the letters for Young Parents has been excellent and more names are received from time to time. The program to be given the homemaker groups in November by Miss Suzanne Guernsey, Ass't. Home Agent, on youth should help stimulate more interest. The home agents were developing a weekly radio broadcast, starting with family life programs but this is at a standstill until a new home agent is here. There are three radio stations in the county anxious to have a weekly program from the home agents.

There is interest among some of the older homemakers in a letter dealing with their problems similar to the one now being sent to the Young Parents.

VIII. SUMMARY, OUTLOOK AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Future Potential Programs already Discussed

1. Weekly radio program
2. Special Interest classes in budget and record keeping
3. Special Interest workshops in upholstery
4. Special Interest workshops to continue as needed in clothing construction, furniture refinishing, sewing machine clinics, and nutrition for young homemakers
5. Need for a letter for older homemakers