

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

YUMA COUNTY

September 10, 1953 - November 30, 1953

Ray Weick

Assistant County Agent

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Yuma County, Arizona
1953

SUMMARY

The annual report of Assistant County Agent Ray Weick covers the period of September 10, 1953 through November 30, 1953. This period is inclusive of the time served as Assistant County Agent in Yuma County during the fiscal year 1952-53.

The Assistant County Agent has completed a consolidated 4-H annual report for the entire year and reference shall be made to same on occasion in this report.

Since the Assistant County Agent came into the program in the middle of the year a large amount of his time was spent in becoming oriented with people, places, procedures and programs as well as many, many other things. Unquestionably the change of personnel affected, at least temporarily, the routine of the 4-H club program in Yuma County.

A wholehearted endeavor was made by the Assistant County Agent to continue all programs in motion at the time of his entry into the program. As well, steps were taken to make a review of past situations and to attempt to peer forward in an effort to determine future possibilities for the furtherance of the 4-H club program in Yuma County.

The period of time covered by this report saw no drop in 4-H club interest in Yuma County. The enthusiasm of leaders, parents and members was sufficient to give impetus to the program wherever the lack of experience and consequent lack of leadership from the Assistant County Agent was evident.

All possible means of publicity were used in getting information of 4-H club activities to the public and members. A separate weekly 4-H column on 4-H activities in the County was instigated. This was carried by the Yuma County Farmer, a local weekly newspaper. As well as this means of cover, and weekly radio programs, a new medium of publicity was assumed, television. Two programs a month were presented on agricultural 4-H subjects by the Assistant County Agent.

Enrollments for the club year 1952-53 were summarized and tabulated. Even before this was completed the enrollment program for the 1953-54 club year was set into motion.

The Recognition Event and selection of judging teams were high on the interest scale during October. Judging teams that were selected and groomed in October were tried at the Arizona State Fair in November.

The Assistant County Agent was well supported by other members of the Yuma County Extension office in his work with the 4-H club program. The work has been that of investigating the past, initiating the scheduled, and instigating the future.

Ray Weick
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SUMMARY (con't)

Organization and Planning

A considerable amount of time was spent by the Assistant County Agent in becoming oriented to the 4-H plans and activities in Yuma County. Other members of the Extension staff as well as leaders and members were relied upon to a large extent in the beginning.

The first bit of organization was the selection of a Livestock Procurement Committee. Mr. Howard Salyer, a local leader, was chosen chairman of this committee. The main function of said committee was to assist all concerned with the problem of obtaining good quality calves for the 4-H member's projects. Local citizens, 4-H leaders and Extension personnel worked side by side on this committee.

Various other committees appointed through the 4-H Council and the 4-H leaders association were gainfully employed in planning and organizing the various events to be discussed further in this report.

A planning meeting on the tractor maintenance project was attended in September in Phoenix. This was followed by a leader training school in October, also in Phoenix.

4-H Meetings

The Assistant County Agent has had an opportunity to visit most all of the agricultural clubs in the County. Visitations at these clubs was time well spent. It provided an opportunity to meet and become familiar with many of the club members and their projects. At the meetings an opportunity was used to relay important information to club members. The organization meetings are particularly important meetings and every effort was made to attend these initial meetings. Attendance at such meetings provided an opportunity to explain in further detail some of the necessary information on projects and 4-H club work in general.



SUMMARY (con't)

Programs

More investigation than anything else was done towards setting up or assisting with programs in clubs. In discussing the 4-H program with leaders the conclusion was reached that activities, recreation, music, health, safety and community service, as well as others, deserve more emphasis than they have received in the past.

Projects

The problem of fitting the project to the member and his or her family operations was given considerable thought. Several members were approached with suggestions for changing their project outlook. A medium amount of response was noted, undoubtedly more could be done with this problem in the future.

A total of 28 beef calves were selected and arranged for by the Livestock Procurement Committee. This entailed the assistance of the Assistant County Agent in both procurement and distribution.

The Assistant County Agent also made arrangements with the Airho Livestock Company for 35 head of lambs which has been requested by 4-H club members. This was a matter of sorting something like 2000 head of lambs in order that a selection of good quality lambs could be made. More good Extension public relations were exhibited in this endeavor.

Suggestions on selection, care and feeding of livestock projects were made through personal contact, home visits, radio, newspaper and television.

Demonstrations

It was noted that there has been a high rate of interest in agricultural demonstrations in Yuma County. This is an unusual but healthy situation and was discussed with leaders. Plans were made to continue demonstration help days for club members.

Judging

The Assistant County Agent had his first opportunity to size up the judging potential on October 17. At that time 27 club members showed up at the Crane School for a days activities of judging practice. The results of this practice were used in selecting teams for competition at the Arizona State Fair. The attendance of Senior judges at this event were curtailed somewhat due to the conflict with an out-of-town football game the night before. This was a good example of the constant conflict for time that the 4-H program experiences. The results of the team members selected are more fully covered in the Yuma County Consolidated 4-H Annual Report.

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SUMMARY (con't)



Showmanship and Fitting

A couple of sessions were held with the 3 boys who have scramble calves entered in the Arizona National Livestock Show. The hooves on the calves of these boys were in particularly poor shape. This was due to the fact the calves had been confined in a small pen with soft bedding for some time. It was both suggested and demonstrated how to trim the feet of the calves.

Enrollments and Completions

The Assistant County Agent saw the end of the club year and consequently the completions of that year. The records showed an enrollment of 221 girls and 163 boys for a total of 384 members. These members carried a total of 721 projects. Completion summaries showed that 188 girls and 119 boys completed their work. This work was represented by the completion of 544 projects.

Percentage-wise these figures represented an 80% member completion and a 75.45% project completion.

A graph story of the enrollment and completion story has been prepared and placed in the Yuma County Consolidated 4-H Report.

Ray Weick
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1953

SUMMARY (con't)

Enrollments and Completions (con't)

A goodly amount of time was spent in re-organization of clubs.

Leadership of 4-H club Work

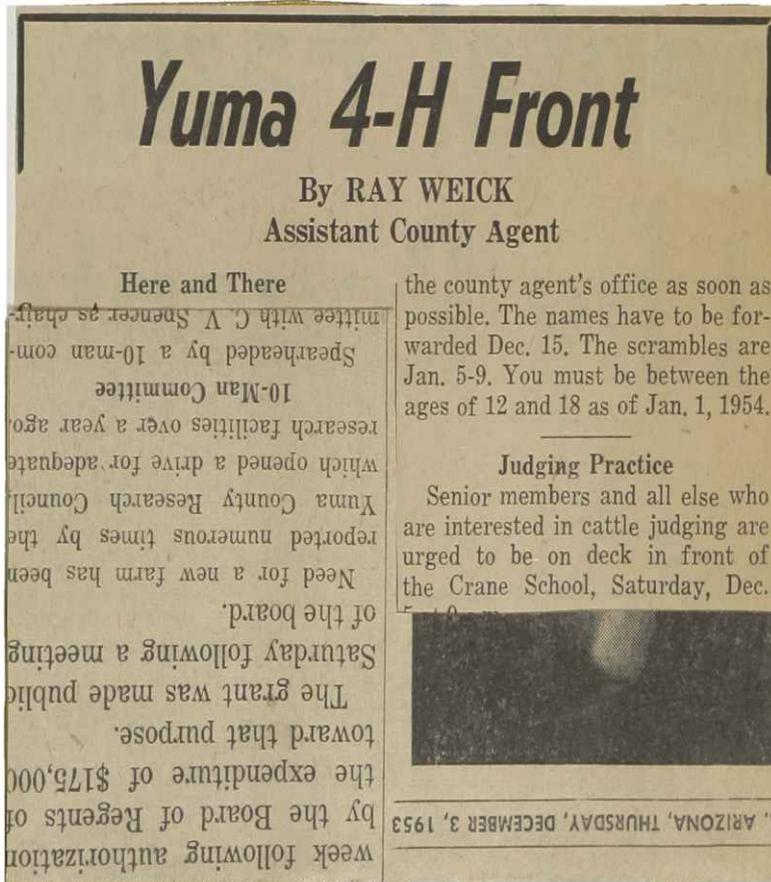
Plans were made with the leaders association to include in the program leader training schools, junior leader training schools and sessions for officers of clubs on parliamentary procedure.

INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

Newspaper

A column strictly devoted to 4-H club news was instigated in the weekly Yuma County Farmer. An effort was made to cooperate with both weekly and daily newspapers. In return, ample coverage of 4-H events was evident in both the Yuma County Farmer and the Yuma Daily Sun.

News items written by the Assistant County Agent were aimed at being informative, timely and interesting. Names of members and leaders were used in reporting the activities of various clubs. Informative material included timely hints on projects, announcements and details of coming events.



Example of the 4-H Front - a weekly column prepared by the Assistant County Agent and appearing in the Yuma County Farmer.

SUMMARY (con't)

Enrollments and Completions (con't)

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Yuma 4-H Front

By RAY WEICK
Assistant County Agent

Here and There

Crane Ag—

The Crane Agricultural Club held a project tour Sunday. Leader Wilbur Power, assisted by Junior Leader Corinne Moore, and about 20 club members visited the projects of the members who were on hand for the tour.

A good variety of methods and equipment were displayed. For the most part members are to be complimented on having pens and equipment in good condition. The club plans to have another tour in about a month or so.

Leader-Council Meeting—

The county council held a meeting Saturday morning.

The subject of fund raising was the main topic of discussion. Plans were made to hold a rummage sale on Dec. 19 in Yuma. All clubs that are out of the Yuma area were urged to either hold a similar money-making event for the council treasury or else to send their rummage clothes in to be sold at the rummage sale here.

Plans were also discussed to hold leader training schools, fitting and showmanship schools, demonstration help days and officers training schools.

December 30 was decided upon for a demonstration help day. All members who are interested in getting started demonstrating will have an opportunity for assistance that day. More news of this event will be coming out soon. Plans now call for the event to begin at 10 a.m. at the Rood School and those attending to bring a sack lunch.

The next meeting date for Council-Leader meeting was set for Jan. 2.

Calf Scramble

Members who are interested in attending the calf scrambles at the Arizona National Livestock Show are urged to get their names into

the county agent's office as soon as possible. The names have to be forwarded Dec. 15. The scrambles are Jan. 5-9. You must be between the ages of 12 and 18 as of Jan. 1, 1954.

Judging Practice

Senior members and all else who are interested in cattle judging are urged to be on deck in front of the Crane School, Saturday, Dec. 5 at 9 a.m.

From this and other sessions, the team to represent Yuma county at the Arizona National Livestock Show in January will be selected. All senior age members who have not competed in this contest previously are eligible for the team.

Coming Events

Dec. 5 Cattle judging practice, 9 a.m., in front of Crane School.
Dec. 10 Deadline for getting your name in for the calf scramble.
Dec. 16 4-H TV program, 6:30 p.m., tractor maintenance.
Dec. 19 4-H rummage sale.
Dec. 30 Demonstration help day.

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1953

INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY (cont)

Radio

The weekly 5-minute radio program of 4-H interest was continued over station KYUM. In addition to this, occasional programs varying in length were made for station KYMA.

4-H club members and leaders were often used on the programs. An effort was made to make the programs timely and interesting as well as informative.

Discussion with people over the County disclosed the fact that the program, which is heard each Wednesday morning, has a large and regular audience.

4-H Covered Wagon

Only one issue of the Covered Wagon was prepared by the Assistant County Agent. It was prepared late in November and carried reports of all events up to that time, plus announcements of coming events. The addition of an addressograph machine in the County Extension Office made it possible to mail the Covered Wagon directly to each 4-H club member in the County.

Television

Television was the newest tool used by the Assistant County Agent in putting out 4-H information. The opening of station KIVA-TV made it possible to have a bi-monthly program on 4-H Agricultural projects. The Assistant County Agent used 4-H club members to help put the points across.

A more complete outline of the use of television appears in the Yuma County Consolidated 4-H Report.

Circular Letters

The absence of the Franking Privelege curtailed for a while the number of circular letter contacts made by the Assistant County Agent. However, they were used to distribute information on projects, to outline special programs and to announce events. A valuable tool in the County as large as Yuma.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Community Tours

One club scheduled a tour of members projects which the Assistant County Agent took part in. The business of equipment, the animals, handling them and feeding them, was discussed with each member so that other members might be better able to note exceptions to standard practices.

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1953

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS (con't)

Recognition Events

At least two clubs held some type of an event to put emphasis on the presentation of achievement certificates.

The Somerton Junior Farmers and Homemakers held a banquet type of an event with a nice program. In general a nice evening was enjoyed by all who attended.

The Jolly Commuters held a picnic style event whereas the usual hot dog roast, soda pop, etc. were the order of the day. This too was attended by the Assistant County Agent.

In the Parker area a potluck supper climaxed the presentation of awards. Good could be said of all of these events.

County Events

Judging

One of the first major events of County-wide importance attempted by the Assistant County Agent was a judging school. Twenty-seven members were on hand for this school. One carload came from as far as Parker.

A more complete outline of this event can be found in the Yuma County Consolidated 4-H Report.

Of interest about this event was the total number of persons other than Extension and 4-H members who were instrumental in the success of this event. Local farmers volunteered the use of their poultry, rabbits, swine, cattle and sheep.

Council Meetings

Several meetings of the Yuma County 4-H Council were attended by the Assistant County Agent. An effort was made to establish the exact desires of the County Council and to give them whatever assistance was needed.

The Council meetings were scheduled at whatever times they were felt necessary. This proved to be a poor procedure and steps were taken to correct this by suggesting a regular meeting schedule. It was felt by the Assistant County Agent that a more active schedule of events would in turn build more interest in the Council meetings. This in turn would add materially to the curriculum and would keep member's attendance up.

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1953

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS (con't)

County Events (con't)

Leader's Association Meetings

The Yuma County 4-H Leader's Association was a medium of great help to the Assistant County Agent.

Primarily the Leader's Association and the County Council worked together, both very closely with the Assistant County Agent. A Leader's meeting was scheduled every time a Council meeting was. References made to the Council's activities are also true of the Leader's Association.

Yavapai Calf Judging

Once again Yuma County 4-H members attended the Annual Yavapai County Calf Sale. Pete Gonzales, local leader, drove a busload of members to the event which is held in Peeples Valley.

All members who attended the event took part in a contest of grading the 80 head of calves in the sale.

Final tabulations found Karen West on top in the scoring. Robert Smith and Milton Euhus were close behind for 2nd and 3rd place respectively.

A livestock procurement committee had proceeded the bus into Yavapai County and had 17 head of calves corraled for 4-H members who had made beef deposits. Before the members went home the calves were assigned to members by a drawing.

County Pie Social

In face of a depleted treasury the County Council voted to hold a County 4-H Pie Social on November 21. That date came about after several postponements.

A relatively small crowd attended the event which was held at the Rood School Center, but the spirit was high and so was the bidding. Consequently the event turned out to be quite a healthy situation after all.

The Assistant County Agent helped set the event up and directed recreation as a part of the evening's entertainment.

Recognition Event

The 8th Annual Yuma County Recognition event was held October 24 in the Crane School Auditorium. The Crane School Cafeteria staff served

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1953

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS (con't)

County Events (con't)

Recognition Event (con't)

the dinner. An eventful evening of entertainment and good food was enjoyed by the near 200 people who attended. This attendance was down somewhat from previous years. No particular reason for the drop in attendance was obvious.

The Assistant County Agent took charge of preparing the program, the printing of tickets and of making arrangements.

Committees of leaders and members were appointed by the Council and leaders association. These assignments were well carried out. A complete, detailed report of this banquet was prepared and filed by the Assistant County Agent for future reference. A complete listing of the event's activities are included in the Yuma County Consolidated 4-H Report.

State Events

State Fair

A full slate of agricultural judging teams was selected by the Assistant County Agent for competition in the Arizona State Fair 4-H Judging contest. Teams for both the Junior and Senior Division were entered in vegetables, poultry, rabbits, dairy, and livestock. Some individuals were members of more than one team, consequently the total number of judges to attend was 17. In addition to these, 6 girls were entered in Home Economics judging. Five of these 6 girls were also entered in the "Make it Yourself with Wool" contest.

Agricultural team placings were Junior livestock 4th, Junior vegetable 2nd, Junior rabbits 2nd, Junior dairy 5th, Junior poultry 2nd. High individuals among the Juniors were Roger Frauenfelder 4th in livestock; Kirby Yowell 4th, Jack Power 9th, and Nancy Bobersky, 5th individual in vegetables. In rabbits they were Carl Baldrige 4th, Harry McKee 7th, and Jack Power 6th individuals.

Among the Seniors who rated high as individuals were Dwight Lomayerva 9th, Maridean West 5th, and Sharleen Dougherty 6th in vegetables. Jane O'Reilly 10th, Maxine Polacca 4th, and Mary Ellen Bobersky 7th were the individuals placing in Senior rabbit competition. Mary Ellen Bobersky was 3rd individual and Maxine Polacca 4th in the poultry.

Home Economics teams in Clothing and Food Preparation won red ribbons for their judging.

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ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS (con't)

State Events (con't)

State Fair (con't)

A total of 27 ribbons were brought home by the judging teams. The main fault with this was that all ribbons were red. However, all members did a good job considering their limited practice. Mrs. Agnes Salyer was the driver of the Somerton School bus used. All had a good time.

National Events

National 4-H Club Congress

Yuma County was proud to have 2 members named as state winners and consequent trip winners to National 4-H Club Congress.

Joan Koogler won her trip on home improvement. Joan is a member of the Hem & Ha and Jolly Commuters 4-H Clubs.

Danny Johnson was winner of a meat animal award for his outstanding job done in this field. Danny is a member of the Somerton Junior Farmers & Homemakers Club.

The Assistant County Agent was unable to spend sufficient time with members who were potential trip winner material and consequently fewer entries were made than should have been.

SPECIAL AWARDS AND SPONSORS

Sears-Roebuck Foundation

A program was established one year ago, whereas the 4-H Clubs of Yuma County were to receive as an award to the outstanding Junior 4-H Club member a registered Holstein dairy heifer. This program was drawn up with the Sears-Roebuck Foundation. The winner of the award this year was Ronnie Smith of the Somerton Junior Farmers & Homemakers.

Ronnie went to Tucson November 18 and selected his heifer from the G. F. Woods dairy. Ronnie was rightfully quite proud of this award. Undoubtedly he will do a good job with the animal.