

ANNUAL REPORT

BY

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Agricultural Agent
December 1, 1957 - November 30, 1958

AND

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Assistant Home Agent
April 1, 1958 - November 30, 1958

PINAL COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

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I SITUATION

There are 10,143 school children between the ages of 10 and 21 in Pinal County. Of this potential, our 4-H Club enrollment the past year was 344. There are 71 adult 4-H Leaders working with these members.

Of the 21 population areas in the County, 14 communities are reached through organized 4-H Club work. These 14 communities are as follows: Casa Grande, Coolidge, Eloy, Florence, La Palma, Mammoth, Oracle, Picacho, Randolph, Red Rock, Superior, Toltec, Valley Farms and Apache Junction. The 4-H Club at Apache Junction was organized the latter part of November.

4-H Club work is carried on through the Indian Service on the Gila River Reservation and the Papago Indian Reservation.

The other areas not reached through organized club work as yet are Stanfield, Maricopa, San Manuel, Ray, 11 Mile Corner, Kelvin and Friendly Corners. Considerable work has been done towards organizing a club at San Manuel. Some time was also spent inquiring about the possibilities of club work in the Stanfield and Maricopa areas.

II ADMINISTRATION AND EXTENSION ORGANIZATION

A. Leaders' Organization

Pinal County has a 4-H Leaders' Council composed of all active 4-H Leaders in the County.

The Governing body is the 4-H Board of Directors. Members of this Board are 4-H Leaders who are elected by the Council to serve for a three-year term.

Members on the Pinal County 4-H Clubs, Incorporated, Board of Directors are:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Mrs. Phil Thompson	Box 787, Eloy	1960
Bob Davis	Box 6, Red Rock	1960
Joe Blakeman	Box 7, Red Rock	1959
George Ziegler	Route 1, Box 120-A, Coolidge	1959
Mrs. Chester Carter	Route 1, Box 31, Coolidge	1961
John Colvin, Jr.	Route 1, Box 29, Casa Grande	1961
Sonia Stevenson, Junior Leader	1110 N. Palo Verde, Eloy	1959

These people met with the Agent in charge of 4-H work once each month to plan the 4-H program and coming events.

These are Committees composed of 4-H Leaders who also help plan special events and activities in the County.

Two of the members, Mrs. Chester Carter and Mrs. Phil Thompson, are representatives of the 4-H Clubs on the County Extension Advisory Board. This Board plans the entire Extension program for the County.

B. Sources of Leadership

4-H Leaders are secured in several ways: 1. Parents, 4-H Club members and leaders contact people in their community and solicit leadership. 2. Extension Agents contact prospective leaders. 3. Sometimes people volunteer to act as leaders.

Usually the most successful leadership results when 4-H members or leaders contact people and ask them to become leaders. Most of the 4-H Leaders are parents of 4-H members who feel an obligation to children in the neighborhood.

C. Leadership Training

It has been extremely difficult to get 4-H Leaders to participate in County 4-H Leaders Workshops, especially in the Agricultural projects.

During the past year, most of the leaders training in Agricultural fields has been done exclusively on the individual club basis with average results. Judging tours were conducted on the county-wide basis, and some of the Livestock Leaders participated in these events.

In January, the Home Agent conducted a Leader Training meeting for the Picacho group on 4-H foods. Two foods Leaders and two Junior Leaders attended.

In connection with the 4-H Foods Program, the foods project training for first unit members was presented by the Home Agent at Red Rock's 4-H meeting in January. This is the first year that Red Rock has had Home Economics work.

Clothing Project Evaluation:

Helen Church, Extension Clothing Specialist, visited Pinal County, May 28 and 29. She conducted a Clothing Project evaluation at three project meetings, which was attended by 24 members and leaders.

This evaluation check sheet included questions about the interests and needs of the 4-H clothing members to check the suitability of the material as presented in the 4-H books. Those members of these Clubs who had dropped out of the project, were visited also, to get some ideas from them. This was a very interesting experience for the Assistant Home Agent.

III 4-H ACTIVITIES

A. County

1. 4-H Fair: This is the largest single 4-H event in Pinal County. The Fair is the highlight of 4-H in this County, most of the 4-H members look forward to it. The 4-H Fair was held April 25 and 26, at the Fairgrounds at 11 Mile Corner.

There were 575 Home Economics exhibits at the 4-H Fair. These exhibits were judged the day before the Fair opened.

The County Dress Revue was held Friday evening, April 25th. Eighty girls participated in the Revue. They modeled aprons, skirts and blouses, dresses or formals which they had made. Mrs. Phil Thompson was superintendent of the Dress Revue.

The Annual 4-H Livestock sale, held at the Fair, grossed over \$16,000.00. There were thirty-one steers, thirteen lambs, and twenty-one hogs, sold, in addition to two pens of three steers. Record keeping and economy of gain was stressed throughout the feeding period, so the members would know exactly how they made out financially on their venture. Careful selection of feeder steers, lambs and hogs, is being stressed for the 1959 4-H Fair.

2. County Judging and Demonstration Days: Countywide practice sessions in giving a demonstration were held June 12 and July 10. 4-H members were given information on how to give a demonstration.

August 7 was the date of the County Demonstration contest in which six senior division demonstrations and six junior division demonstrations were given. County medals were awarded to those in the junior division and four of the senior division demonstrators were selected to go to State 4-H Roundup.

A judging practice in each phase of Home Economics was held the first part of July. The final contest was held July 18th and three high scorers in each phase in the senior division were selected to participate in the judging contest at State 4-H Roundup.

Judging and demonstrating are important phases of Club work and will be stressed more in the 4-H Club program for the coming year.

3. County 4-H Awards Night: One hundred 4-H Club members, leaders and parents, attended the Awards Night held October 18, at the 4-H Fairgrounds.

"4-H Philosophy" was the theme of the talk given by Dr. J. W. Pou, Director of the Agricultural Extension Service. Dr. Pou presented the Awards to the 4-H members who had done outstanding work in the various 4-H projects. The first year 4-H leaders were also presented their pin and certificates.

Following the presentation of Awards, refreshments were served and recreation was led by the Junior Leaders.

4. Livestock Selection Days: The 4-H Livestock Committee selected and purchased all steers, lambs and hogs for 4-H members to feed as 4-H projects. The members then selected their animals from this group. The livestock was uniform in size, weight and quality. It was the opinion of the Committee that when everyone started out with the same weight, size and quality animal, it will be the best feeder and manager that will win out. The livestock is now on feed and will be judged and sold at the 4-H Fair in the spring.

If 4-H members are to learn more about feeding, fitting, showing and management, the Committee felt they could learn more if everyone started even.

5. Fitting and Showing Demonstration Day--Sheep and Beef: A Countywide Fitting and Showing Demonstration was held in March for 4-H members who had beef and sheep. Members were shown how to trim feet, wash, brush, curl, and lead beef cattle. The sheep members were shown how to block and trim a lamb, how to trim their feet, and how to show lambs. Then the 4-H members were given the opportunity to practice. This paid off in much better fitted animals at the 4-H Fair.

6. 4-H Officer Training Meeting: 25 newly elected officers and leaders met November 15th at Kenilworth School for the Training meeting.

Officers met in their respective groups to discuss their responsibilities of the office. Keith Jones met with the Presidents and Vice-Presidents; Sophie Smith, County Recorder, discussed the duties of the Secretaries and Treasurers; Sarah Harman, Assistant State 4-H Leader, met with the Junior Leaders and Graham Wright, State 4-H Leader, worked with the Recreation and Song Leaders. The Agents working with 4-H Clubs, met with the adult leaders and reporters.

7. County 4-H Shopping Day: About 80 4-H Girl Leaders and Mothers attended the 4-H Shopping Day, held in Casa Grande, October 31st. The purpose was to acquaint 4-H clothing club members with the project's requirements and to give ideas for carrying out the project. The Extension Clothing Specialist presented the information on project requirements and demonstrations for "Making a Sewing Box," part of the first-year clothing project work, and in "Setting in a Gusset," part of the advanced clothing project, were given by Club members from Kenilworth and San Tan.

"Highlights in Fashion," a filmstrip, was shown to the Clubs, showing how fashions have been developed over the centuries and why styles are as they are now. This was followed by a Fashion Show of garments from Cohen's, in Coolidge, and Blanche's in Eloy, with Club members modeling. After the show, the girls toured Fab's, Serrano's, and Penny's stores, in Casa Grande, where they were shown new materials and patterns for Fall. They also learned what to look for in buying yard-goods and ready-made dresses, skirts and blouses. The older girls, and some leaders, toured the Casa Grande Mills to see the manufacture of knitted garments.

B. Out of County

1. State Fair: Eight Clubs from Pinal County entered exhibits at the Arizona State Fair, held during November.

2. Club Congress: Sabra Jeanne Woodruff, Coolidge, was selected to attend 1958 National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago. Her trip was sponsored by the Santa Fe Railroad. She was an Education Achievement winner.

3. 4-H Roundup: Pinal County was represented by 15 4-H Club members at the Annual 4-H Roundup at the University of Arizona, in August.

Katherine McGrath, Florence, was the State Poultry Judging champion, and Bonnye Snyder, Kenilworth, was the Advanced Room Improvement Contest winner. Pinal County was in charge of the Candle-lighting Ceremony.

4. 4-H Leaders' Conference: 4-H Leaders' Conference was held on the University Campus, June 2-5. This was an educational and inspirational experience for the leaders.

Mrs. Chester Carter, Kenilworth 4-H Club Leader, was selected "4-H Club Leader of the Year," and received a plaque at the banquet during Leaders' Conference. This plaque is presented each year by the Arizona County Agents Association to a leader who merits this honor.

5. Tri-County 4-H Summer Camp: 4-H Camp was held July 27-August 2, at the Methodist Church Camp in the Chiricahua Mountains, in Cochise County. Thirty members and leaders attended from Pinal County. Classes were held each day and crafts were taught to those interested. The group enjoyed planned recreation.

IV OUTLOOK AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It is imperative that more older 4-H members be kept in the program. This will necessitate a change in the program to include more recreation, advanced projects, and special interest type of project materials.

Pinal County needs to have a much larger 4-H program. To accomplish this, we will need more interested parents and leaders. More general information about 4-H needs to be disseminated throughout the County. 4-H is not known in many parts of this County. In other areas, people think 4-H is just for "farm" boys and girls. Education is a slow process, but it is felt that some progress is being made in this respect.

Not enough of our 4-H members take part in County-wide activities, such as tours, demonstrations and judging workshops. This situation is improving, but too few of our members realize the importance of the educational phase of 4-H work. Many of our 4-H parents and leaders have the impression that the only important phase of 4-H work is having the Champion Steer at \$2.00 a pound or "winning" a State award at Roundup.

Arizona's 4-H program has been conducted from October through April, being rather inactive during the summer months. It has been rather difficult to stimulate interest in 4-H work on a year around basis. As our program progresses, more work will be done in the summer. Some progress has been made this past year.

In order to combat some of the thinking and improve our total program, we must have a stronger training program for the 4-H leaders and members.

The Agents feel that some progress has been made this year in stimulating interest in the 4-H program, as well as developing a more forward looking youth program for Pinal County.