



Youth activities through 4-H club organizations was a major project again the last year. Rural youth of today will be the farmers and homemakers of tomorrow. Upon them must rest a large share of our hopes for rural America. Practical training to better prepare these boys and girls is one of the objectives of 4-H club work. The history of our agricultural progress reveals that many of our finest improvements in farming and homemaking have been introduced to the farm rural areas through the 4-H club boy and girl. Four-H club work in Winnebago County is one of the better ways of reaching the rural communities with an educational program.

The second objective of the 4-H club program stressed in Winnebago County is the development of farm leadership. Through a full club program our boys and girls are being trained to understand the agricultural problems, work out solutions, and above all else are developing an ability by which they may stand up before people and present a thorough discussion of agricultural problems.

The county 4-H club program was headed by the county agricultural agent and the county home agent. These two leaders were guided in their work by a council of county 4-H club leaders. This 4-H club council was a policy making group upon which the county agents depended for helpful guidance.

The 4-H executive Council is composed of 12 4-H club leaders -- 6 adult leaders and 6 junior leaders. The council meets on an average of once each six weeks with a full slate of officers in charge. Upon the council rested the responsibility of drawing up the 4-H club program for the year and directing its execution. This type of organization has accomplished much in unifying the county 4-H club program and bringing about a better club program with an achievement of 78.5%, the highest in Winnebago County's 4-H history.

Highlights of the 1940 Winnebago County 4-H club program were:

1. 525 club members
2. 39 4-H clubs
3. 55 adult leaders
4. 28 junior leaders
5. 71% achievement
6. County 4-H club council maintained with regular meetings.
7. Leaders training schools were held to give assistance to 4-H leaders.
8. One-day dairy judging schools held
9. One-day livestock judging school held.
10. A county 4-H club roundup was held to select the county delegates to the state contests. The following teams and individuals were selected to represent the county at the State Fair in the boys' divisions.

- A. Dairy judging team
- B. Livestock judging team
- C. Crop judging team
- D. Agricultural demonstration team.

Approximately 72 boys entered the county contests to try and win places on county 4-H club teams and free trips to the State Fair.

11. 4-H exhibits at the county fair were exceptional. All departments were filled to capacity with increased exhibits this year in the 4-H divisions for swine, sheep, and poultry. This year's booths were far better than a year ago largely because leaders had a better understanding of the type of booth to be constructed.
12. Total 4-H exhibits at the county fair in divisions were as follows --
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| 1. Dairy calves | 76 | |
| 2. Beef calves | 4 | |
| 3. Hogs | 57 | |
| 4. Sheep | 39 | |
| 5. Poultry | 112 | |
| 6. Colts | 2 | |
| 7. Crop exhibits | 200 | |
| 8. 4-H Booths | 19 | |
| 9. Entries in cattle showmanship | | 33 |
| 10. Entries in swine showmanship | | 16 |
| 11. Entries in sheep showmanship | | 15 |
| 12. Entries in horse showmanship | | 7 |
| 13. 339 Four-H boys and girls exhibited approximately 1247 exhibits and won \$1166.43 in prize money. | | |

A new project entered into the 1940 club program, the 4-H club camp at the county fair. The county agent for several years had visions of a 4-H camp at the county fair. This camp would be an event planned for and anticipated by every 4-H club in the county. With suitable food and housing conditions it could be planned to climax the county 4-H club year at the county with exhibits, booths, demonstrations, judging contests, etc.

Four-H club members could come to the county fair and take part in the activities of the fair while being housed under favorable conditions.

The first step was taken in 1939. A church stand was contacted at the fair and furnished 4-H club members three good meals a day for .75¢. Tents for sleeping were promised but were not available.

In getting ready for the 1940 fair, the county 4-H council invited the fair directors to meet with them to plan a 4-H camp at the fair. As a result, the fair association in 1940 furnished tests for a men's hall and dormitory. Cots were hired, meals were contacted for and served at the camp by a restaurant. In spite of the rain, a successful camp was held.

During the week statistics show that --

1. 165 meals were served in camp.
2. 60 boys and girls were housed.

These events started the movement for dormitories at the fair grounds which resulted in the decision by the county board to vote funds for a 4-H club dormitory on the county fair grounds. This is a forward step and will be greatly appreciated by 4-H club members and leaders in the years to come.

The crowning event of the 1940 4-H club schedule was the Achievement Day exercises held at the Recreational Gym in Oshkosh on Saturday, November 16th. Over 500 club members, leaders, parents and friends jammed the hall to capacity to partake in the program. The evening's program was featured by a potluck supper, stunts by the various clubs, achievement reports of clubs, awarding of achievement pins and special awards. Halloween decorations, horns, favors, and so forth added to the festive and merrymaking part of the evening's program. A dairy feast was made possible through the cooperation of the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce and the Union Star Cheese Factory of Fremont. Free ice cream, milk and cheese were served by Winnebago County's past four dairy queens.

Special Beef Calf Project - Through a special project arrangement the county agent placed 16 A-1 beef calves out as projects in 1940.

This project was brought about through the cooperation of the Equity Livestock Sales Cooperative of Milwaukee. This cooperative bought and shipped in to Milwaukee 130 head of choice beef calves for 4-H club projects. The county agent picked out 16 of these calves and brought them to Oshkosh where they were distributed to 12 boys and girls for project work.

