

MADERA COUNTY 4-H CLUB ANNUAL REPORT

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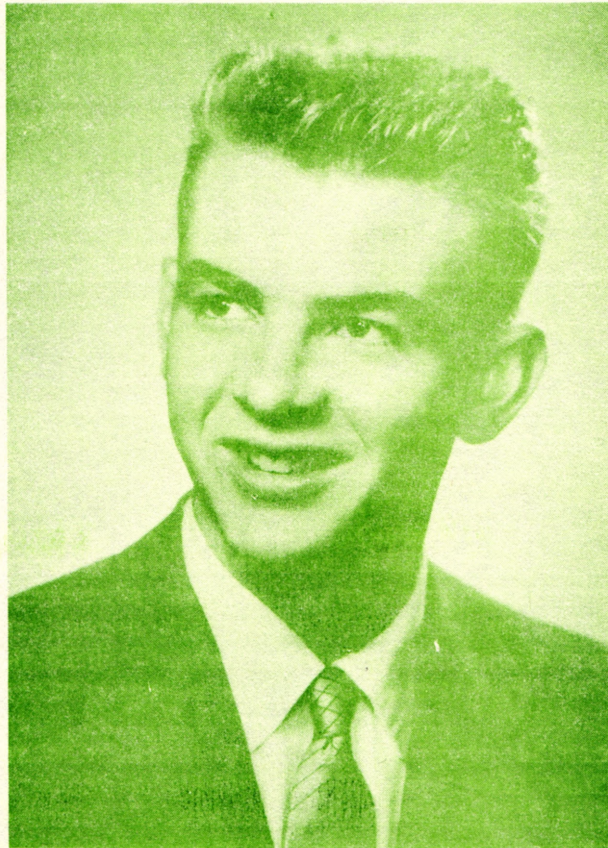
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OUR NEW HOME



The Madera County Office of the University of California Agricultural Extension Service, also known as the Farm and Home Advisors Office, is now located in the northwest wing of the new Court House Annex. The entrance to the office is on H Street near Fifth.



BENTON CAVIN

Benton Cavin, seven year member of the Oakhurst 4-H Club, was selected to be a representative of the western section of the United States to the 34th National 4-H Club Congress held in Chicago November 26 thru December 2.

Ben was selected on the strength of his forestry project work and over-all club record. He was previously named the California State winner in the forestry division of the 4-H awards program.

Development of capable, self-reliant young people is the goal of the 4-H Clubs. In Madera County, this program is under the direction of Betty Kelly and Harry "Skip" Bolton, Home Advisor and Farm Advisor for the University of California.

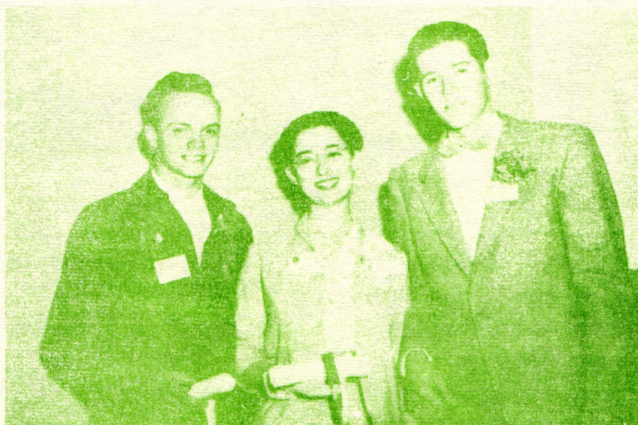
OPPORTUNITY CALLS

Yes, opportunity is calling at the door of every 4-H Club member.

Many local and county awards are being offered to recognize the achievements of our young people. They are of little monetary value, yet they have great symbolic meaning to the young folks. Receiving a county honor medal means to them: I am important to others. I am wanted. I can do things on my own. I have improved and advanced, therefore, I am ready to assume more leadership and responsibility in helping others.



	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Number of Members	350	529	510
Number of Completions	267	367	355
Percentage Completions	76%	69%	70%
Number of Junior Leaders	13	50	54
Members 10 to 14 years	237	430	391
Members 14 to 21 years	113	99	121



Scholarships and educational trips for older club members become goals toward which boys and girls can set their sights.

These awards are bestowed for self-earned advancement. In no way whatever are they the result of luck or of chance.

The 4-H awards are, of course, not the end, but a means of achieving the end - the building of aggressive, sturdy citizens that will carry on in the American and the Christian tradition.

STOCKS HIT PEAK



The stock exchanges (FAIRS) hit a new peak during the past year and the experts predict a continued rise in both the number of 4-H exhibitors and animals.

"Stock" trading was active as indicated by the interest and prices paid at both the Madera and Chowchilla Fat Stock Sales.

Exhibiting at the Fair is an important part of the educational program carried on by 4-H Club work. Judging and showmanship contests allow members an opportunity to see how well they and their animals compare with others from Madera and surrounding counties.

Home Economics members exhibit clothing, baked goods, and preserves.

LET ME SHOW YOU

4-H Club demonstrations pay big dividends for the time and patience invested by leaders and parents. The teams and individuals must learn all they can about the subject, plan their demonstration so that it follows a logical order, present it in an interesting and entertaining manner, and be good sports when competing in the county, regional, or state demonstration contests.

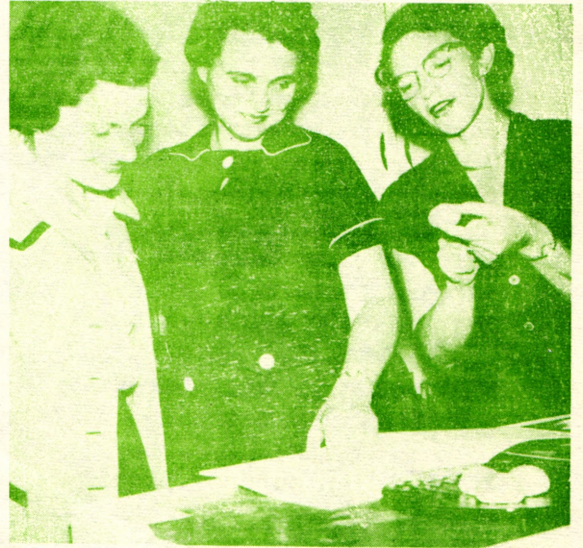


These 4-H'ers will always be able to draw on their "accounts" for poise, initiative, and alertness. They are clear thinkers and the "balance" will be in their favor for life.

LEADER TRAINING DRAWS PROFITS

Madera County 4-H Club leaders received assistance at the 84 Leader Training Meetings held in 1955. One thousand twenty-five leaders were in attendance at the meetings.

Leaders are given current information developed at the University of California. This information is passed on to the 4-H members at regular project meetings. As a result, 4-H'ers gain multiple profits to put to use every day in such diversified fields as livestock, gardening, clothing, and foods.



DRESS REVUE DIVIDENDS



Judging is based on workmanship, appearance of the garment, and the general appearance of the girl when modeling the garment. This system encourages the members to sew skillfully and to practice wise wardrobe selection. Habits of good grooming, posture, and poise are practical throughout the year and are particularly important at the Dress Revue.

Endless dividends of good grooming and poise plus sewing skills are developed by the 4-H Club members participating in the annual County Dress Revue.

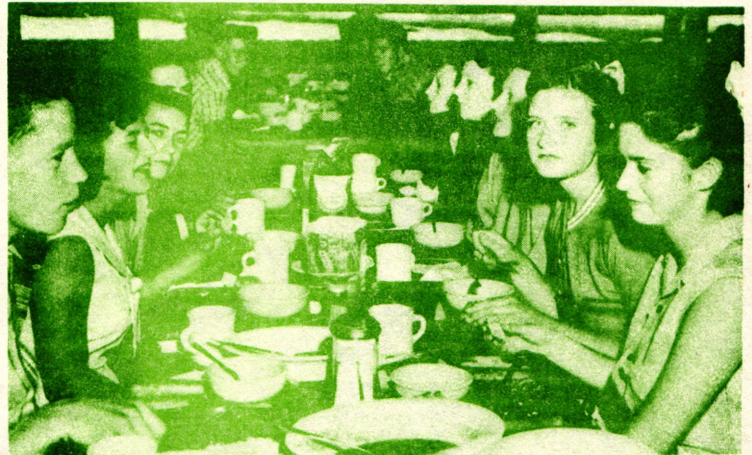
Members enrolled in any of the clothing project groups are eligible to model a dress or other articles of clothing made during the year. Dress Revue participants may be members from the beginning unit "ABC's of Clothing" or members from one of the more advanced units, such as, "Your High School Wardrobe". Seventy members entered the 1955 Dress Revue.



4-H CAMP SHOWS RETURNS

An activity profitable to the 4-H Club member is the annual summer camp held at Whitaker Forest. The camp will accommodate as many as 200 campers and is located near Kings Canyon National Park.

Through out-of-door living, 4-H members develop an appreciation of nature. They learn about the trees and wildlife, plants, and insects. In the nature craft program they learn textile painting, arrowmaking, pyro-braiding, and other crafts related to an outdoor program.



The 4-H'ers learn to live and play in a group. Leadership is developed through participation in vespers, campfire, and recreation. The camping program reaps harvests of character, citizenship, and leadership.

JUNIOR LEADERS ANNOUNCE GAINS



Madera County 4-H Junior Leaders have announced the formation of a greater profit sharing plan for 1954-55. The new plan is a 4-way deal involving stockholders enrolled in the Junior Leader Project, company representatives known as 4-H Leaders, University of California Farm and Home Advisors, and 4-H Club members.

Under the new system, Junior Leaders will be active in all four phases of the work. Leaders and Farm Advisors will profit from the help received from county radio and newspaper reporters, and other Junior Leaders. 4-H members will profit from increased assistance and project supervision. The Junior Leaders will profit by being of service to others and by using and increasing the skills developed during their earlier years in 4-H.

