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Hamilton
County Club Council General

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

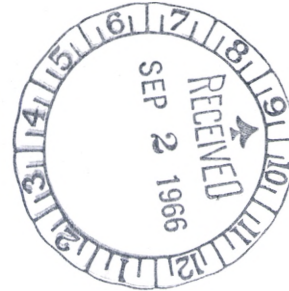
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KEARNEY HORTICULTURAL FIELD STATION

DATE: September 1, 1966
TO: 4-H Farm & Home Advisors - San Joaquin Valley Region

Bernard C Downing

FROM: Bernard C. Downing
4-H Club Specialist
RE: 1967 SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY 4-H LEADERS CONFERENCE



Following are the minutes from a recent planning committee meeting for the 1967 San Joaquin Valley 4-H Leaders Conference:

Planning Committee Meeting -- August 15, 1966 7:30 p.m.
Agricultural Extension Service Office, Modesto California
Attending: Barbara Koligian, Home Advisor, Stanislaus County
Bob Larson, 4-H Leader, Stanislaus County
Joan Coulson, Home Advisor, Merced County
Alex Gibson, Farm Advisor, Merced County
Dorothy Duncan, 4-H Club Specialist, Berkeley
Bud Downing, 4-H Club Specialist, Reedley

A report was made by Bud Downing that Yosemite Lodge accommodations are available to the 4-H leaders group the third week end in January, 1967 (20th - 22nd). It will be necessary for the management to be contacted in person in order to make definite commitments for guaranteed number and cost. The committee reaffirmed their approval of a conference program to extend from Friday late afternoon until after lunch on Sunday.

Since some of those present had not attended the previous planning meeting, the objectives of the conference were reviewed and additional suggestions made for the general tone of the gathering. In view of the reaction of many who attended the last conference and who objected to a too heavily packed program, Alex Gibson suggested a fifth objective to the original four:

1. Provide subjects that cannot easily be offered at the county level.
2. Bring before the leaders experts in their fields that are not readily available to the county program.
3. Bring together leaders from several counties so they might:
 - a) share ideas
 - b) discuss mutual problems
 - c) gain a broader perspective of the total 4-H program
 - d) be inspired by the success of others as well as the reassurance that they also share mutual problems
4. Provide training for a select group of leaders that they can use to train others upon return to their respective counties.
- (new) 5. To provide a period of relaxation where people might enjoy one another's company and the beautiful surroundings.

Bud pointed out that there are two ways to look at the development of the program for the conference:

1. To have a focus for the conference and to have everything feed into this;
2. To have a spectrum of things from which the participants might choose.

He stated that relationships and involvements seem to have been the way the committee was thinking as a focus the last time they met.

Three other recommendations made by staff were:

- Alex - Develop the program around the leaders' expressed interests.
- Barbara - Make certain that ideas presented are ones that will be useful to the leaders.
- Joan - Follow the suggestion to have experts present abstract ideas followed by leader-led discussions.

It was felt to be very important that people, upon arrival, would be extended warm hospitality and have direction in what to do. The advisors in Merced County offered to see that fruit punch and hors d'oeuvre trays were prepared and that each person or group be personally greeted.

Suggestions discussed for program subjects included:

Possible for total group (150)

- Leader direction - how much should there be?
- Parent participation - how might they be involved more?
- Junior leader--leader relationship - keys to working together.
- Free-wheeling group discussion - greatest success, greatest satisfaction, greatest problem.
- Citizenship as seen by the Western Leaders Forum.

Possible for choice of two out of six (approximately 25 to a group)

- Activities - what are they?
- Recruitment of leaders (include getting more men).
- 4th graders!
- Members' attitude toward the ranking system.
- Records - permanent, standard, when to introduce, etc.
- Programs for older members.

Display

- 4-H girls' uniform - old, new and show.
- Encourage leaders and counties to bring displays; i.e., projects in process, slides, judging classes, etc.

The program that finally evolved is:

Friday, January 20

- 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. -- Dips and chips and registration (Merced)
(Stanislaus)
- 7:30 p.m. -- Dinner
- 8:30 p.m. -- View exhibits? Folk singers? Talk by ranger?
Just visiting?

Saturday, January 21

- 8:00 a.m. -- Breakfast
9:00 a.m. -- Opening session (leader M.C. from Stanislaus or Merced) introductions, plans for conference, etc.
9:30 - 10:30 a.m. -- "Leader direction - how much?"
Rudy Monosmith pose questions, cite what studies show, etc., for about half an hour. Bud will assist in separating participants into small groups and get started on discussion.
10:30 - 11:00 a.m. -- BREAK
11:00 - 12:00 noon -- Discussion of above topic
12:30 p.m. -- Lunch
1:30 - 2:30 p.m. -- }
3:00 - 4:00 p.m. -- } --attend two of the six sessions listed below:
a) activities - what are they (Kern Co.)
b) leader recruitment (Kings Co.)
c) 4th graders (Tulare Co.)
d) ranking system (Stanislaus Co.)
e) records (Merced Co. - team of leaders)
f) programs for older members (Fresno Co.)
4:00 - 6:00 p.m. -- Free time
6:30 p.m. -- Banquet - Steve Carlson, M.C.
Speaker: Stary Gange? Golden Dreggs? W.G.S.?
9:00 p.m. -- Party

Sunday, January 22

- 8:00 a.m. -- Breakfast
10:00 a.m. -- Church of choice
11:30 a.m. -- Talk - talk - talk - Bud and Steve to organize (Alameda style - as 8 to 10 arrive, form them in a group and give them a topic to discuss.)
12:30 p.m. -- Lunch
"A Look Ahead" - Rudy Monosmith

Sometime during the conference, maybe an evening or part of Sunday morning, develop small informal groups around a resource person to ask questions and express opinions. (This could be: "Come talk with Rudy about trends in 4-H"; or "Come talk with Bud about Hi-4-H"; or "Come talk with us (Willie and/or Jacquie) about the Western Leaders Forum"; or "Come talk with Delores about Dressing By Design"; etc.)

Bud will contact counties on program assignments. He will also secure banquet speaker. In addition, he will work with the information department on publicity and will order the pin-on type name tags.

A few special hopes were expressed:

- A hope that the food will be very good, recognizing that people will think everything is tops if they are well fed.
- A hope that any recreation that is planned will be easy and nondemanding; and that no one feels he has to sing, or play games, or dance.
- A hope that the conference will be relaxing and satisfying.

The committee established the next meeting for 8:30 a.m. on October 19 at the Agricultural Extension Service office in Merced.

Minutes submitted by--
Dorothy Duncan
4-H Club Specialist

cc: County Directors - San Joaquin Valley Region
State 4-H Club Staff
Bob Larson
Mrs. Barbara Young
Floyd Farley
Mrs. Marjorie Miguel
Dorothy Duncan