

Kentucky Home Economics Extension History 1913-1996

**Compiled by Louise Hart, Helen Stevens, Linda Heaton
and Darlene Forester**

HIGHLIGHTS OF KENTUCKY HOMES ECONOMICS EXTENSION HISTORY

The primary legislative action making Cooperative Extension work possible consisted of the Morrell Acts of 1862 and 1890; the Hatch Act of 1887 and the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 originally called for "...cooperative agricultural extension work between the agricultural [land-grant] colleges...and the United States Department of Agriculture, in order to aid in diffusing among the people of the United States useful and practical information on subjects related to agriculture and home economics, and to encourage the application of the same."

According to the Act, "Extension work shall consist of the giving of instruction and practical demonstrations in agriculture and home economics to persons not attending or resident in said colleges, ...and imparting to such persons information on said subjects through field demonstrations, publications, and otherwise; and this work shall be carried on in such manner as may be mutually agreed upon by the manner as may be mutually agreed upon by the Secretary of Agriculture and the state agricultural college or colleges receiving the benefits of this Act."

KENTUCKY EXTENSION IN THE BEGINNING

"Mr. Tommy" Bryant commented that it all began when the County Life Commission wanted to improve the plight of the county women as well as to make the business of farming more profitable.

In 1913 Helen B. Wolcott was appointed state leader to organize Extension work in Home Economics. In the spring of 1914 the girls' canning clubs were initiated by Mrs. Wolcott. She was assisted by 17 female county agents employed for the summer—the height of gardening and canning season.

By 1915, the University of Kentucky Agriculture Extension Program was staffed by five men and three women employed full- or part-time as supervising agents.

On June 30, 1915, 25 female county agents were employed and assigned to work with home demonstration clubs as well as girls' canning clubs. For these "home demonstration agents" the conditions faced were anything but inviting. There were no good roads, no adequate office facilities, no means of transportation, no organization nor established procedures and no funds for supplies and equipment. On December 31, 1918, Helen B. Wolcott was relieved of her duties.

In September 1919, Miss Gertrude McCheyne succeeded Mrs. Wolcott and stayed less than a year, resigning August 31, 1920. Miss McCheyne was succeeded by Margaret Whittiman, who resigned in June 1923. Miss Lulie Logan, then assistant state leader, served as acting state leader until May 1, 1924. Miss Myrtle Weldon was appointed state leader on May 1, 1924.

THE TWENTIES

Miss Weldon brought greatly needed stability to the home economics Extension program with her outstanding ability and loyalty to Extension Home Demonstration work in Kentucky. (“Home Demonstration” was the term or title used until it was changed in the 1950s to Extension Home Economics.)

Some of the instability of county home demonstration work during the early years was illustrated by the fact that as of June 30, 1918, there were home demonstration agents in 29 counties, but of those only 10 were on the list of 23 counties that has agents in 1924.

In June 1924, an organizational change was instituted to administratively move Extension Home Economics from the Department of Home Economics to the College of Agriculture.

At the time of Myrtle Weldon’s appointment as State Leader there were two individuals to help with the supervision of agents—a district agent, Margaret D. Jones who had been employed since 1914 and resigned in October 1924, and Lulie Logan assistant state Leader who was employed in 1922. Zelma Monore was hired in 1924 and Helen White in 1936. These three remained in these positions until their respective retirements.

At this time specialists also began to be hired. They were persons with expertise in a particular subject matter area such as Clothing, Housing, etc. and at that time typically held a Master’s degree. They functioned out of UK, providing assistance to county agents.

Three specialists who would serve prominently and long were employed in the 1920s: Edith Lacy was clothing specialist in 1924; Ida Hagman as foods and home management in 1928; Florence Imlay as foods specialist in 1928.

During these early years of Extension home economics, work was carried on largely through homemakers clubs in a rather informal manner. In 1922, a *Manual for Home Demonstration Clubs for Women* was published with direction for forming clubs.

In 1924, with the coming of Miss Weldon, arrangements were made for the forming of county homemakers associations and councils, with suggested constitutions submitted to the counties. By the close of 1925 there were 377 homemaker clubs with a membership of 4,124. This form of organization—the club—proved to be an effective tool for developing leadership, delegating responsibility, securing local participation and developing effective programs and methods.

A quotation from Myrtle Weldon in 1925: “It would be a real surprise to many to walk into a rural homemakers club and see the presiding officer conducting the business according to the best

rules of parliamentary procedure, secretaries with minutes well-written and committee members making reports with ease and self-confidence.”

During the 1920s the activities of home economics agents and the club members addressed such community needs as: hot school lunch programs, home and community sanitation, physical fitness, communicable disease, home care of the sick, home improvement, landscape gardening, and control of household pests. There were in addition to the regular study of food and clothing for the family.

Early history of the Extension home economics agents association is almost nonexistent. However there are records showing that in 1924, Ida Hagman was elected as the first president of the association. She was followed in 1926 by Roxie Perkins. Records indicate that Catherine Johnson served in 1929 and Isadore Williams in 1930 with a void until 1937 when Alda Henning was elected. From this time on those having served as president of the Kentucky Association of Extension Home Economists (KAEHE) are listed in Appendix A located in back of this booklet.

THE THIRTIES

The number of home economics agents rose to 29 by 1930. Further development of the homemaker organization occurred in 1932 with the formation of a state organization, the Kentucky Homemakers Federation. A constitution was written soon after the organization was formed and 29 counties became members. By 1939, 59 counties were members and 108 counties had joined the Federation by 1958. Mrs. Lyda Lynch Hall was the first State President. Others serving this state organization for Homemakers are listed in Appendix B located in the back of this booklet.

The story of the emblem began in 1934 when a committee was appointed in Kentucky to develop an insignia for home demonstration work. Miss Myrtle Weldon, State Leader, Kentucky, composed the wording, Miss Ida Hagman, Home Management Specialist, Kentucky, designed emblem. Extension Agents for Home Economics use the emblem with the wording “Cooperative Extension Service” and the acronym NAEHE in the added outer circle. The emblem was adopted by the Federation of Kentucky Homemakers who took it to the 1936 national meeting in Washington, D.C. It was readily embraced nationally.

In June 1936, the National Home Demonstration Council was formed. The Kentucky Homemakers Federation was affiliated with the National Homemakers Extension Council as well as with the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW). Mrs. Lyda Lynch Hall, Lexington, KY served as the second president of the NEHC. In 1992, this group changed its name to the National Association for Family and Community Education, Inc.

The Master Farm Homemaker movement started in Kentucky in 1928. Five women were selected each year through 1932. They were sponsored by Farmer's Wife Magazine and the University of Kentucky Extension Unit. These ladies were nominated by neighbors. Each nominee responded to a 500-question survey followed by a visit by a committee of judges. The program was discontinued from 1932 to 1948. However, there are records indicated these women continued to meet and pay dues on their own without a sponsor. Mrs. Lyda Lynch Hall served as national president from 1933 to 1934.

At a meeting of the voting delegates of the Kentucky Federation of Homemakers, the decision was made to revive the recognition of Master Farm Homemakers. This group was to be sponsored jointly by the University of Kentucky, the Master Farm Homemaker Guild and the Kentucky Federation of Homemakers. A committee composed of one representative from each sponsoring group came together to draw up rules regarding the project and responsibilities. Mrs. Cecil Bell, Bourbon County served as national president from 1959 to 1961.

From the beginning, county Extension programs both in agriculture and home economics, responded to current economic conditions and problems with efforts such as the live-at-home program during the depression years and the relief-and-rescue work during the great flood of the Ohio River and its tributaries in early 1937. During the 1930s, Extension Home Economics continued to emphasize work with and through the homemaker clubs at the community, county and state level. This effort was very successful in providing knowledge to improve the well-being of families and to develop their leadership skills. Some 6,400 members or 45 percent of the total membership served as local leaders in 1939 when 53 counties had home economics Extension agents.

In an *Historical Appraisal of Home Demonstration Work in Kentucky 1914-1939*, Miss Weldon stated, "Home Demonstration work is giving the homemaker an opportunity for self-expression, is challenging her ability, is elevating the common task, is giving her an appreciation of her part in a work economy, and her contribution to world society, and is helping her to become a person more interesting to herself, her family and her neighbors." Two existing problems were also pointed out by Miss Weldon: 1) correlation of the programs of many agencies who work with farm people, and 2) the lack of educational programs for the low-income underprivileged group. Miss Weldon's prophetic vision in identifying these problems was to be reflected in Extension programs for many years to come.

THE FORTIES AND FIFTIES

During World War II, Extension Home Economics work was oriented toward national defense programs and projects dealing with shortages and rationing; better nutrition; increased production and preservation of foodstuffs; the remodeling, repairing and renovating of clothing and home furnishing using materials on hand. Discussion groups were organized to teach democracy and national defense.

The Bankhead Flannagan Act of 1945 provided the funds and opportunities for further development of Extension. One such development was the equalization of counties section under which the number of counties having home economics agents in Kentucky grew from 62 in 1945 to 99 in 1951.

The Extension Home Economics Agents association gradually grew into an active professional group (KAEHE) and attendance at national association (NAEHE) meetings increased. Some of the early participants and awards received include; Lilah Hembree—secretary of (NAEHE) in 1951; Louise Craig—first recipient of the Grace Frysinger Award and Elizabeth Word—recipient in 1958; May Ellen Murray—first agent in the southern region to receive the Florence Hall Award; Emma Maxfield—recipient of one of the first scholarships awarded by NAEHE in 1964; Ruth Harralson—recipient of the Extension superior service award of the USDA in 1954. Kentucky agents receiving the NAEHE Distinguished Service Award are listed in Appendix C located in the back of this booklet.

With the post-World War II period came fundamental social changes that brought significant changes to Extension. These changes were encouraged and driven by a series of powerful studies and reports that were written over the next four decades.

The *1946 Report of the Committee on the Scope of Extension's Educational Responsibilities*, familiarly called the *Kepner Report*, and was the first in a series of ES-USDA (our national Extension Service) studies to encourage a broader focus for Extension to include all people regardless of their place of residence, age, economic, status, group affiliation or other factors.

In 1948, the *Joint Committee Report on Extension Programs, Policies, and Goals*, produced by the USDA and the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, also encourage the expansion of Extension's programs. Noting that the problems of farm, home, and rural life "should continue to constitute the basic core of Extension work," the Joint Committee underscored the "interlocking interest of all groups of society," and said that Extension must help people deal with problems of public policy—local, national, and international—and of human relations, even though such

problems are “less tangible and more controversial” than those Cooperative Extension had traditionally tackled.

THE FIFTIES AND SIXTIES

The increasingly complex subject matter of home economics now includes a new emphasis: human relationships. By 1951, efforts to set up a unified farm and home Extension program for adult and youth programs resulted in the formation of a county Extension advisory committee in a majority of the counties in the state.

Another result of the unified extension program effort was the Farm and Home Development Program conducted in the mid-1950s through the early ‘60s. In 1954, Congress funded this program which was focused on the farm and farm family as a total unit with emphasis on management, public affairs and marketing.

Following the retirement of Miss Weldon in 1955, Alda Henning assumed the position of acting state leader until Viola Hanson was appointed state leader, serving from 1956 to 1965.

By 1958, when the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP) published its report on the increasing scope of Extension education—since called *the Scope Report*—the tempo of change in America life had accelerated, and even more accelerated changes appeared likely. Cooperative Extension, increasingly asked to serve more people and more and varied groups continually had to focus on shifting areas of need to remain responsive to its clientele.

The *Scope Report* Committee emphasized Extension’s increasingly comprehensive clientele, rapidly expanding from its core of farm and non-farm rural residents and commodity groups to include the entire agricultural infrastructure and urban residents as well. It then pointed to the major operational problem Extension faced (and still faces): “how to allocate its time and resources so that the highest priority needs of those other than farm people are given appropriate attention.”

Organizational experiments were tried as workloads increased. IN 1965, the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service was reorganized to allow field staff to work on a multi-county or area basis. Most staff members remained housed in the county office they occupied at the time of reorganization. For administrative and supervisory purposes, the 120 counties, previously grouped in six Extension districts, were reorganized into 16 areas. Later they were shifted to 14 areas of eight to 10 counties each to conform to the 14 areas established by executive order of the Governor in 1967. An area Extension director position was established and was given responsibility for supervising the field staff and the operation and funding of county Extension offices in each

Extension area. This arrangement replaced a 3-person team of supervisors in each of the former Extension districts. Emphasis on this multi-county approach was discontinued in 1969. However, the area director position was retained as were some of the other more beneficial aspects such as area events, leader training, and programming.

In the late 1960s the Homemaker's Cultural Arts and Crafts three-day camp was initiated in the Bluegrass Area for the purpose of leader training. This type of camp continued to be conducted in many areas throughout the state reaching more than a thousand women each year.

The formal organization for homemakers clubs—originally known as the Kentucky Federation of Homemakers—changed its name to Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association (KEHA) at the annual state meeting in March 1968. Over the years, KEHA members have experienced some noteworthy accomplishments statewide and nationally:

- The official song of the National Extension Homemakers Council, *Onward, Ever Onward* was written by Mrs. Dorothy Bullock of Larue County.
- Mrs. R.P. Matchett of Kenton County served two, 3-year terms (1962-1968) as the A.C.W.W. Area Vice-President.
- In 1964, a 5-cent postage stamp designed by Murial Moore of Bardstown was issued by the U.S. Postal Service in honor of Homemakers clubs.
- *Treasure Trails*, a book compiled in the mid-1970s by Cultural Arts Chairmen, is a record of areas of cultural interest throughout Kentucky and is very useful when traveling the state.
- A needlepoint tapestry of 120 county and six special squares was made by Homemakers members. It was dedicated to the Commonwealth of Kentucky and along with a descriptive book titled *A Labor of Love*, is displayed outside the rotunda in the state capitol.
- A print titled *Homemaker* by artist Bill Granstaff commemorates the 50th anniversary of KEHA. It was unveiled May 12, 1983 as part of the state annual meeting.
- KEHA hosted the annual meeting of National Extension Homemakers Council in Lexington in 1964 and in Louisville in 1984.
- The NEHC flag was designed in 1975 by Mrs. Gladys Medley, Marshall County.

A People and a Spirit, a national report produced in 1968—during times of social conflicts and awareness growing out of the Vietnam War and the civil rights movement—affected Cooperative

Extension program. Program focus shifted to include the problems of the city, low-income people and minorities.

In 1968, Congress mandated new initiatives in nutrition for low-income people and funded the Expanded Food and Nutrition Program (EFNEP). EFNEP was designed to provide nutrition information and to encourage sound nutritional practices through the work of Extension paraprofessionals who were to be supervised by local home economics Extension agents. In the early days each Extension area had an EFNEP Area Agent either UK or Kentucky State for a number of years.

THE SEVENTIES

Major civil rights equal opportunity efforts have been carried out in both extension staffing and program delivery. In 1973 Congress mandated separate federal funding for the 1890 institutions. Thus, the Family Development and Resource Management (FDM) program was initiated and conducted in 13 counties through the use of paraprofessionals, supervised by the local extension agent for home economics. This program was administered and conducted through our 1890 sister institution, Kentucky State University in Frankfort.

In the text of *A People and a Spirit*, educators were urged to increase attention to staff development, particularly the use of new teaching technologies and communication systems including the mobile education unit. The unit, a classroom on wheels for EFNEP, was equipped with a variety of teaching aids and facilities. Between 1971 and the early 1990s three such units were designed, built and used in different areas of the state. The units were used for displays, demonstrations at fairs, camps, schools, festivals, shopping malls and parking lots. In the 1990's, a unit was designed and used as a computer laboratory on wheels and belonged to Kentucky State University.

Dr. Doris Tichenor was named "Assistant Director for Home Economics and Community Development" in 1969 following a series of acting state leaders (for a complete listing of state leaders see appendix). This action reflected the beginning of a new title for the director of home economics programs. Several area agent positions remained across the state, primarily in foods and nutrition. The Louisville area also had two area agents' positions—Housing and Home Furnishings and Clothing and Textiles both housed in the Jefferson County Office.

THE EIGHTIES

The 1970's and early 1980's were viewed as a time of growth and change at the state specialist level. By the fall of 1980, there were three foods and nutrition, three resource management, three clothing and textiles, two child and family and one housing and home furnishings subject matter specialists.

According to a 1968-69 agreement with the College of Home Economics, all Extension subject matter specialists were to be housed with their subject matter departments within the College of Home Economics. These eleven subject matter specialists were joined by three other program specialists (Cultural Arts, Homemakers, and EFNEP) and an energy specialist, housed in Agricultural Engineering, to form the Home Economics Extension Unit on the Lexington campus. Four additional specialists on the Kentucky State campus met and worked closely with their Lexington counterparts. This was, however, to be the last hiring and largest state staff for Extension programming during the 1980's reflected the needs and desires of a changing world and diverse clients. The economics plight of the farmers who were suffering cash flow problems and drastic real property deflation after 1981 resulted in programs which dealt with stress management and family living. There was a growing interest in home-based business to supplement the family income. The governor's wife, Phyllis George Brown, encouraged and promoted Kentucky crafts in other states. Soon after counties began to form craft cooperatives as a means of promoting and selling the beautiful handmade items. Dr. Patty Rai Smith, hired as a state cultural arts specialist in 1980, was instrumental in helping counties to establish these cooperatives in many Eastern Kentucky counties. In the late 1980's she became a Home-Based Business Specialist.

As the population shifted toward an older age spectrum and as family relationships and structures changed, Extension generated new programs in family resource management, family strengths and communications, pre-retirement issues, housing and clothing for the elderly, and economic, social and aesthetic community problems. The 1981 legislative mandate for the Extension mission state: "The rapid rate of social change, economic instability, current energy problems increase the need for expanded programs of research and Extension in family financial management, housing and home energy consumption, food preparation and consumption, human development (including youth programs), and development of community services and institutions."

A 1983 national committee report titled *Extension in the 80's: A Perspective for the Future of the Cooperative Extension Service* carried forward many ideas expressed in earlier reports. The previous forecasts about the increasing speed of change in American life were indeed accurate. Among the number of complex changes included a greater percentage of families in flux with more single parent

families than ever before; changing residence patterns and increased mobility; more part-time farmers and women employed full-time outside the home; changes in health and nutritional status and new lifestyles; different societal values; and, changes in media and institutions from which people secure knowledge.

Special attention was emphasized for strengthening families through leadership development and volunteer training in both rural and urban areas; the development of young people in all socioeconomic groups; lifelong learning and a greater use of volunteers in program management.

To continue reaching more people with more information, specifically those individuals who could not attend regular Homemakers club meetings, a mailbox membership status was initiated in the 1980s. This type of membership consisted of paying dues and receiving monthly information by mail from the local Extension service office. Other efforts to involve the hard-to-reach clientele included mass mail-outs, correspondence courses, home learning packets, special interest newsletters, lunch-and-learn sessions and volunteer outreach programs.

In the 1980s the Extension home economics program gave emphasis to building human capital by increasing the ability of people to reach their full potential through active involvement in families, organizations, communities and the workplace. Some Extension programs addressing this effort included: KEHA, a strong leadership development program through which volunteers developed a spirit of service and a willingness to help others; the Family Community Leadership (FCL) program in which participants improve their leadership and organizational skills enabling them to participate more effectively in identification, analysis and resolution of public policy issues that affect families and communities (a joint Kellogg Foundation); the Sharing Our Selves (SOS) learning network through which individuals having knowledge and/or skills in a subject, volunteer to teach others in a small group setting; and the Adult Literacy Project in which KEHA members and Extension professionals took active roles in promoting adult literacy in Kentucky. Many Homemakers members were certified tutors or worked as literacy council members.

Other subject matter offerings of the 1980s included: emergency preparedness; special diets such as low-sodium, sugar and fat; weight control; relationship of food and disease; food safety; fiber in the diet; new food preservation recommendations; nutrition for pregnant teens and for youth; money management including financial planning, credit, record keeping, banking, investments and insurance; home-based business; radon levels in homes; wardrobe planning and purchasing, care and maintenance of clothing and clothing construction; accessorizing your home, kitchen planning, antiques and collectibles. During this period, some of the non-traditional audiences included: non-

Extension professionals, public officials, disabled persons, highway employees, athletes and coaches, latchkey children.

In 1984, Dr. Suzanne Baden hop replaced Doris Tichenor as Assistant Director of Home Economics Programs. From about 1983 to 1989, the College of Agriculture was in the midst of a changing administrative group from the dean down to and through assistant director positions including those of home economics, agriculture, and 4-H. At the same time USDA partners were being changed and positions redefined. Budget restraints were being enforced from all angles.

County agent positions became vacant and were not being filled due to limited resources. For over two years, county positions were filled on an “as need” basis thereby keeping approximately fifty positions (agriculture, home economics, and 4-H/youth) vacant all the time. State positions were cut and lost as individuals retired and/or resigned. Unlike many other states across the county, Kentucky did not downsize or reorganize during this period, but continued to use all resources and capabilities attempting to work smarter and move slowly onward.

In 1987 the Kentucky Association of Extension Home Economists hosted their national (NAEHE) meeting in Louisville. During this period, Frances Bengé served as president of the agent’s association. A complete listing of association presidents is listed in Appendix A.

In response to the changing needs of a changing world, ES/USDA launched a new programming venture better known as “national initiatives.” These were special issues or topics which needed to be addressed. In 1988, the following issues were identified: Competitiveness and Profitability of American Agriculture, Alternative Agricultural Opportunities, Conservation and Management of Natural Resources, Water Quality, Revitalizing Rural America, Improving Nutrition, Diet and Health, Family and Economic Well-being, and Building Human Capital. States were asked to organize special work teams and to send representatives to national strategic planning meetings.

THE NINETIES

This programming effort was to lay the foundation for a new role for several home economics specialists—a role of college leadership and interdisciplinary/ interdepartmental work unlike other previous involvement. Dr. Darlene Forester (Foods and Nutrition) was appointed to chair Kentucky’s Food Safety and Quality. Dr. Linda Heaton (Textiles & Clothing) was appointed to the Water Quality Task Force. This was the beginning of a series of task force groups within Kentucky Extension that would lead and drive a number of different programming efforts for many years into

the 90's. National initiatives would change or merge back into base programs, but home economics leadership would continue to be identified and pressed into action.

In the fall of 1990, Kentucky Extension launched a new outreach program, an interdisciplinary/joint programming venture with the 4-H/Youth Unit known as the Master Volunteer in Clothing Construction Program (MVP). This statewide program was designed to train volunteers to teach and conduct programs related to sewing. With increasing workloads and attention being directed to other issues, county agents frequently found little time to conduct time intensive sewing programs. Working under the direction of their local county Extension agents, volunteers in the program were reaching in excess of 18,700 by as early as 1992.

For many years key lay leaders representing each of the fourteen Extension areas have come together to identify, discuss and share issues important to their respective counties. Through the years this group came to be known as the State Extension Council. Beginning in the late 1980's and continuing into the 1990's, issues related to home economics have led the list. The following issues were identified in 1993:

- Family Stability/Family Stress
- Water Quality
- Youth at Risk
- Environment
- Leadership Development
- Economic Development
- Agricultural Marketing
- Agricultural Profitability
- Diet, Nutrition and Health
- Solid Waste Management
- Agricultural Labor
- Animal Welfare

These issues helped to direct the programming and direction of Extension activities at the county and state level.

For the period beginning in 1994 through 1997, the state Council identified the following issues:

- Family Stability and Parenting
- Health Care/Wellness/Safety
- Environment
- Agriculture Profitability
- Economic Development
- Youth at Risk
- Leadership Development
- Diet and Nutrition
- Solid Waste Management

As a result of some of the issues brought forth in the early nineties, increased focus was directed toward Home Economics areas in general. A Health and Safety Task Force was jointly initiated by Assistant Directors Darlene Forester and Rick Maurer (Rural and Economic Development). Issues

addressed included two main areas: 1) Health care/community health and personal health; and 2) wellness.

A Children, Youth and Families at Risk Task Force was established in 1991 to address family/youth issues and to address two new national initiatives from USDA—Youth at Risk and Plight of Young Children.

Leadership is given to this group by Dr. Janet Kurzynske of Extension Home Economics (Nutrition) and other Extension personnel in various departments. The Task Force was reorganized in 1996 to focus on the use of grant funds from CSREES (formerly ES-USDA). Several counties benefitted from these funds with special CYFAR projects in their communities. Teams of Home Economics and 4-H agents were involved in these activities which include parenting, literacy and other vital issues. A State Strengthening Grant of \$750,000 increased Home Economics' ability to design and deliver interdisciplinary educational programs to improve the well-being of families and youth exposed to negative influences on growth and development. Parenting became a major focus for home economics programming.

Extension offered and continues to offer monthly educational programs to KEHA members based on their self-identified needs and interests. The total number of educational programs varies by county, usually from nine to 10 each year. The agents submit a schedule of lessons and programs planned for the year to appropriate specialists by way of a special computer program called HELP which allows agents and specialists to communicate without phone calls or letters. This helps specialists schedule their time and resources to support this core audience.

KEHA's growth and changes through the 1980's resulted in a leadership program with some very strong leaders. These individuals contribute at the area, state and national level. In addition, these volunteers help extend the work of the specialists and the county agents. The mere size and structure of this program requires a substantial portion of professional staff time.

As an example of the leadership taking place, it was reported in 1990 that 95,418 leaders were trained in nine program areas. Over 10,000 lay leaders participated in formal advisory groups. By 1996, there are about 26,000 members of KEHA, 175 of which are members of the national association, NAFCE. One recent project in which they demonstrated leadership was teaching the Food Guide Pyramid to children in day care facilities.

With extension offices in all 120 Kentucky counties, the normal staffing pattern is for each county to have a minimum of two agents, one with technical skills in agriculture and one with

technical skills in home economics. All but 10 counties have 4-H/Youth agents as well. In these counties Home Economics and Agricultural agents share the responsibility of the youth work.

In 1996, there were 127 Home Economics Agent (known as County Extension Agent for Home Economics) positions in the field staff. Seven of these were in counties in which a second CEA for Home Economics has been hired. Only four vacancies existed as of September 1996. The following State Specialists' positions were filled: Two Foods and Nutrition; two Family Studies/Human Development (one in Rural Sociology); three Resource Management (including one at Kentucky State); three Clothing, Textiles and Home Environment (two of whom now are devoting 1/2 time to Environmental Issues); two specialists in Agricultural Engineering/Biosystems who work with Home Economics unit on housing, air quality and safety issues. Also one specialist from Kentucky state works with Child Development and coordinates the FDM program. To assist specialists in special programs we have on board three program associates.

The EFNEP program continues to be active in 51 counties with 73 assistants who reach approximately 5,500 low-income families per year plus thousands of youth. EFNEP assistants also work with commodity food recipients, Women, Infants and Children (WIC) clients, food stamp recipients, school children and other groups to provide them with information concerning food buying, food preparation, food safety and basic nutrition. During the summer, children of EFNEP families may attend nutrition camps. In 1996, there were five Area Food and Nutrition Specialists to cover the 14 Extension areas.

The Kentucky Extension interdisciplinary approach of our director enables us to offer base programs (Family Resource Management and Nutrition, Diet and Health) as well as programs in response to issues as identified by the state extension council.

Seven thrusts have been identified by the Home Economics Extension unit as areas for current focus and from which to glean feedback from agents to assist with program accountability. The entire Extension program (CSREES, nationally) and all states including Kentucky are working towards better techniques for recovering data on what our programs have accomplished with our clients so we may be more accountable to stakeholders on the local, state and Federal levels. The seven thrusts are:

- 1) Family Stability
- 2) Environment and Natural Resources
- 3) Health and Wellness
- 4) Nutrition/Food Safety
- 5) Children, Youth and Families at Risk
- 6) Family Economic Issues
- 7) Leadership

Currently a committee of CES personnel and State Extension Council officers appointed by the Associate Director is putting together a list of six Strategic Goals for the Kentucky Extension Service. These follow a Mission and Vision statement identified by this committee and others in 1993.

Vision: The Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service is the educational resources for all Kentuckians that serve as a catalyst to build better communities and improve quality of life.

Mission: The Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service serves as a link between the counties of the Commonwealth and the state's land grant universities to help people improve their lives through an educational process focusing on their issues and needs.

The Cooperative Extension Service of the 1990s is administered through the College of Agriculture. The Dean of Agriculture is also the Director of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension is responsible for the direction and general operation of the Extension Service. Because Kentucky also has an 1890 Land Grant Institution, the Extension Program at Kentucky State University is coordinated by their Extension Administrator with the University of Kentucky for one Extension Program in the State. Four Assistant Directors are responsible for program leadership and report to the Associate Dean of Extension.

A middle management team of 14 area program directors provide day-to-day supervision and performance evaluation of the county staff and program as well as direction for the general operation of county offices. IN 1991, the word "program" was added to their original title.

Note: The above information on the development of home economics Extension work is not complete and may not be entirely accurate but merely an effort to pull together something to reflect upon and remind us of our history.

A great portion of this information was gleaned from J. Allan Smith's College of Agriculture University of Kentucky--. Other sources include Heritage Horizons, published by the Journal of Extension; Voices of American Homemakers, published by the National Extension Homemakers Council; available state Extension reports; the 1993-1995 handbook for the Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association; and SOURCE BOOK-Working With Our Publics—Module 1.

APPENDIX A
HOME ECONOMICS EXTENSION STATE LEADERS

1913-1918 Helen B. Wolcott, Agent

1919-1920 Gertrude McCheyne

1920-1923 Margaret Whittiman

1923-1924 Lulie Logan, Acting State Leader

1924-1955 Myrtle Weldon, State Leader

1955-1956 Alda Henning, Acting State Leader

1956-1965 Viola Hanson, State Leader

1965-1968 Ruth Saunders Allen, Acting State Leader

1968-1969 Dr. Burt Coody, Acting State Leader

1969-1984 Dr. Doris Tichenor, Assistant Director Home Economics Programs & Community
Development

1984-1992 Dr. Suzanne Badenhop, Assistant Director Home Economics

1992-1993 Dr. Darlene Forester, Interim Assistant Director for Home Economics

1993-present Dr. Darlene Forester, Assistant Director for Home Economics Extension

**KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION FOR EXTENSION HOME ECONOMICS (KAEHE) /
KENTUCKY EXTENSION ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER
SCIENCES PAST PRESIDENTS**

1924 Ida Hagman	1961-63 Jane Jones Gilchrist
1926 Roxie Perkins*	1963-65 Louise M. Craig
1927	1965-67 Susan Lane Cruse*
1928	1967-69 Mary Steele Saunook
1929 Catherine Johnson	1969-71 Geraldine B. Watson
1930 Isadore Williams	1971-73 Louise C. Hart
1931	1973-74 Maxine Griffin
1932	1974-75 Jerri Cockrel
1933	1976-77 Sue Stivers
1934	1977-78 Lucy Forbes
1935	1978-79 Guynd Lyons
1936	1979-81 Karen Davis-Parker
1937 Alda Henning	1981-82 Rita Spence
1938 Zelma Monroe	1982-83 Nancy Norman Wills
1939 Irene Piedlau	1983-84 Jane Bailey
1940 Lois Sharp	1984-85 Betty Overly
1941 Francis Fleming	1985-86 Nancy Edwards
1942 Ruth Latimer Saunders Allen*	1986-87 Frances H. Benge
1943 Doris Wheeler	1987-88 Carole Rison
1944 Miriam Kelly	1988-89 Janette Chapman
1945 Leone Gillet	1989-1990 Connie Minch
1945-47 Elizabeth Word*	1990-91 Judy Hetterman
1947-49 Bina Foree	1991-92 Karen Ramage
1949-51 Lilah Hembree	1992-93 Connie Jones-Woolery
1951-53 Margaret Sullivan Berg	1993-94 Jennifer Klee
1954 Ruth Harralson Brown*	1994-95 Kathy Jump
1955-57 Mary Jordan Morris	1995-96 Janet Johnson
1957-59 Mary Ellen Lilly	1996-97
1959-61 Alice Killpatrick	*Deceased

APPENDIX B
KENTUCKY HOMEMAKERS FEDERATION/KENTUCKY EXTENSION
HOMEMAKERS ASSOCIATION PAST PRESIDENTS

*1932-33 Mrs. Lyda Lunch Hall, Fayette County
*1934-35 Mrs. W.M. Oliver, McCracken County
*1936-38 Mrs. T. M. Johnson, Warren County
*1939-41 Mrs. H.L. Crafton, Henderson County
*1941-43 Mrs. P.W. Adkins, Bell County
*1943-45 Mrs. Ralph Searce, Shelby County
*1945-46 Mrs. W.E. Nichols, Fayette County
*1947-49 Mrs. W.K. Morris, Christian County
*1950-53 Mrs. Wade Holt, Nelson County
1953-56 Mrs. R. P. Matchett, Kenton County
1956-59 Mrs. Virgil Grayson, Pulaski County
*1959-62 Mrs. Carl Evans, Ballard County
1962-65 Mrs. Harry J. Braun, Campbell County
1965-68 Mrs. James T. Brookshire, Breckinridge County
1968-71 Mrs. Earl Friendly, Scott County
*1971-74 Mrs. Howard Taylor, Harrison County
1974-77 Mrs. Mitchell Bertram, Barren County
*1977-80 Mrs. Samuel Whitt, Jr., Boyd County
1980-83 Mrs. James Wallace, Caldwell County
1983-86 Mrs. M.D. Perkins, Campbell County
1986-89 Mrs. L.E. Moorhead, Bracken County
1989-92 Mrs. Lewis Palmer, Clark County
1992-95 Mrs. Jean Davis, Hardin County
1995-96 Velma Koostra, Warren County
*Deceased

APPENDIX C

NAEHE/NEAFCS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

- 1944 Alda Henning*
- 1945 Mariam Kelly
- 1946 Mary Hood Gillespie; Jenny C. Grubbs*
- 1947 Lilah Hembree; Elizabeth Word*
- 1948 Zelma Byerly
- 1949 Anna K. Evans; Ruth Saunders*
- 1950 Ruth Harrelson Brown*; Roxie Perkins*
- 1951 Priscilla Lytle Hatler; Mary Ellen Murray Lilly
- 1952 Lois H. Sharp; Louise Craig
- 1953 Kathryn Sebree; Elizabeth Donnell
- 1954 Rachael Rowland Wallace; Margaret Sullivan
- 1955 Dora Mae Cochran; Jane Jones Gilchrist
- 1956 Sunshine Colley; Florence Bennett
- 1957 Evelyn Sinclair; Alice P. Killpatrick
- 1958 Kathryn Russell; Thelma Streeter
- 1959 Ada Carter Thompson; Rowena Sullivan
- 1960 Susan Lane Cruse*; Lillian Hixson Rice; Kitty Bess Dodson
- 1961 Maxine Griffin
- 1962 Louise C. Hart; Mary L. Steele
- 1963 Lucille Warren; Bertha McLeod
- 1964 Anna C. Thomspson; Ida Jo Burg; Jacqueline S. Rogers
- 1965 Dorothy Camenisch; Irma Hamilton; Martha B. Jenks*
- 1966 Novella Wininger; Emogene Ham; Isobel Crutchfield
- 1967 Thelma Johnson; Lorene Blankenship
- 1968 Claribel B. Buchanan; Jeanette Yeast
- 1969 Beth Burr; Patricia DeCoursey
- 1970 Geraldine Bentley; Sarah Feltner; Ora W. Neely
- 1971 Lucy Forbes; Emma P. Maxfield; Dauveen M. Roper
- 1972 Reba Kathryn Bullen; Nannie Belle Huttman; Gertrude Paprotta
- 1973 Rebecca E. Gibson, Margie H. Wilson, Barletta Wrather

NAEHE/NEAFCS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS (cont'd)

1974 Jayne Frances Howland Pitts; Martha Lee Stamper; Catherine C. Thompson

1975 Jo Nelda Cole; Jo Ann Keith Pierce; Nell L. Veale

1976 Velva Jerdene Cockrel; Marguerite W. Hart; Sue C. Stivers

1977 Nancy Edwards; Shirley Sheperson; Emma Tucker

1978 Frances Evelyn Hackworth; Nancy W. Norman; Edwina J. O'Hara

1979 Juanita Amonett; Mary Lou Conder; Rose Ellen H. Swope

1980 Jean Cloar; Guynd Lyons; Rita Spence

1981 Janette B. Chapman; Sharon Kay Keach; Margaret D. Scott

1982 Nancy Eckler; Betty Ray Faires; Janice Miller

1983 Myrna Herron; Mary Ellen Bogardus*; Charlene Jacobs

1984 Cheryl Witt; Constance Minch; Karen Davis

1985 Donna Clore; Jane Bailey; Carolyn Goodman

1986 Mildred Potts; Marian Davis; Pat Curtsinger

1987 Karen Ramage; Kathy Lilly; Kathy Jump

1988 Janet H. Johnson, Lida J. Smith; Carol L. Bailey

1989 Georgia Burton; Jennifer Klee; Jean Baugh

1990 Rebecca Page Brooker; Judith E. Hetterman; Martha W. Lee

1991 Janice Collins; Jane Winkler Dyche; Judy H. Wilson

1992 Sally Lewis, Tina S. Peter; Peggy H. Powell

1993 Lora Lee Frazier Howard; Connie Jones; M. Carol Stromatt

1994 Carol Benson; Brenda Cook; Maryellen Garrison

1995 Debra Parrish; Connie Wheeler, Laura Wilson

*Deceased