

4-H Leaders *SERVE!*

By Helping Boys and Girls
In Clubs Throughout Arizona

By Kenneth L. McKee

The story of 4-H leaders' unselfish service to the rural youth of the state is inspiring and heartening in these troubled times.

Harold Dalrymple, leader of the Sahuaro 4-H club in the Amphitheater district of Tucson, is typical of the 350 4-H leaders who helped 3,500 Arizona club members complete a very successful club year in 1950.

A lineman for the Tucson Gas & Electric Company, Harold became interested in 4-H leadership through his children Deanna and Jack. They joined the Sahuaro club soon after it was started in the fall of 1947 by Mr. Everett Thurston. Next year, Mr. Dalrymple was persuaded to act as assistant leader with Mr. Harold Majesky. In 1949 and 1950 he has become the leader of this large enthusiastic group of boys and girls.

Democracy In Action

The Sahuaro 4-H club, like many other such clubs in the state, is a small democracy in action. A committee, chosen from the 21 members, plans the business meetings, subject matter, recreation and community service activities of the group.

Meetings, rotated among club members' homes, are held on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Each 4-H'er has a home project such as fat beef, dairy, poultry, rabbits, lambs, goats or bees. During the meetings the club visits these projects and Mr. Dalrymple or one of the 4-H members gives a demonstration to help them learn how to feed and care for their project in a better way.



Junior leaders, John Doty, John Hand and Jack Dalrymple — older boys who have had several years of 4-H experience—assist Mr. Dalrymple in keeping the younger members active and interested. Each club member keeps an accurate account of expenses and income from his project and writes a story about his work in April at the end of his 4-H year. The junior leaders help younger members keep accurate and up to date records.

Sahuaro 4-H club members are proud of their competitive record. They usually take more than their share of awards at the Pima County 4-H Fair with their prize exhibits of poultry and livestock. Proof of their ability to choose the best animals for their projects is the fact that their judging team won second place in the state at the 1951 Phoenix Stock Show. Each year the club also is well represented at the state 4-H Roundup, held in June on the University of Arizona Campus, and at the Mt. Lemmon 4-H summer camp.

One of the reasons for such an active successful program is the cooperation and support of parents. As soon as the club is organized, parents are sent a leaflet explaining 4-H and asking for their cooperation in helping their youngster start a project, getting them to attend meetings and keep records of their work.

After the projects are well under way, the club holds a parents' and visitors' day. All the livestock and poultry is brought together and club members give demonstrations about their work. Holding meetings in different 4-H'ers' homes also helps parents get better understanding of the 4-H activities.



Harold Dalrymple (center), leader of the Sahuaro 4-H Livestock Club near Tucson, shows club members how to judge wool. Left to right are Mary Tanguay, James Tanguay, Leader Harold Dalrymple, Carol Lynch, and Sally Roberson. The lamb is Mary's 4-H sheep project. The other members of the club are not shown in the picture.

The Leader's Job

Such successful club work, of course, is largely dependent upon the local leader. While he or she may be a farmer, a homemaker, business man, teacher, telephone lineman or any of a large number of different occupations, the 4-H leader must be sincerely interested in the welfare of young people and the values of rural living. He acts as a guide and not as a boss while helping 4-H members hold interesting and vital meetings.

The 4-H leader's payment comes only through the development he or she can see in the club member. This development comes as:

Self reliance and initiative through ownership of a project and responsibility for the project.

Friendliness, ability to work with a group and a sense of social well-being.

Courage and foresight through project failures and contest defeats.

Cooperation for the good of the group, generosity in the use of time and effort for the general welfare.

If you would like to join Arizona's group of rural-youth builders, call or write the County Agricultural Agent in your county.

—Kenneth L. McKee is State Leader of 4-H Club Work for the Agricultural Extension Service.