



SOURCES OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON LOCAL AND STATE 4-H HISTORY

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National & State Publications:

The 4-H Story - A History of 4-H Club Work by Franklin M. Reck, National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work, Chicago, Illinois, 1951 (Covers the national 4-H club movement from the late 1800-s through 1950.)

4-H: An American Idea, 1900-1980 by Thomas Wessel & Marilyn Wessel, National 4-H Council, Chevy Chase, Maryland, 1982

Fifty Years of Cooperative Extension in Wisconsin, 1912 - 1962 Circular 602, University of Wisconsin Extension Service College of Agriculture, Madison, Wisconsin, January 1962 (Reviews early developments and growth of the Cooperative Extension Service in Wisconsin including, developments in the 4-H program from 1912 to 1962.)

Cooperative Extension in Wisconsin: 1962 -1982 by Grace Witter White, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Wisconsin, 1985, (Published history of Cooperative Extension in Wisconsin, including developments in the 4-H program.)

An Historical Study of the Impact of Certain Socio Economic Factors on 4-H Youth Program in Wisconsin by John Mitchell Mackey, University of Wisconsin, Madison, 1977, (This Ph.D. dissertation traces changes in the 4-H Youth Development Program (1900 - 1976) in relation to socio economic factors such as war time emergencies, economic depression, population growth and urbanization, mechanization and automation. Available from the State 4-H Youth Development Office.)

The Father of 4-H in Wisconsin - The Ransom Asa Moore Story: 1861 - 1941 Compiled by Marjorie Gleason and William Gleason, 1988, (A compilation of articles on and by Ransom Moore providing insight into the man and his contributions to the 4-H movement in Wisconsin.)

The People Came First – a History of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension by Jerry Apps, 2002, Wisconsin Epsilon Sigma Phi Alpha Sigma Chapter, (Book presents the history of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension through stories from professionals, volunteers, office staff, and administrators.)

Potential Sources of Information on Local Club or County 4-H History

4-H Club Alumni (Members & Leaders)

Conduct an alumni search with the help of your local newspaper, radio station, or other public appeal. Once located, interview both former members and leaders to learn more about your 4-H club or county program.

4-H Club Records

Record books of past club secretaries, scrapbooks of club historians, or club activity reports/scrapbooks in such areas as safety, conservation, and/or dairy promotion could be great sources of information. Ask club leaders for assistance in locating these records.

UW-Extension County Office

The county Extension Office may have historical records of club/county membership and activity participation.

Local and Area Newspaper Offices

Back issues of the local newspaper might be helpful in learning more about local 4-H clubs or the county 4-H program.

Local Libraries

Another source of old newspapers plus local published histories and other resources. Ask the librarian for assistance.

Local Historical Society

May also be helpful in locating old newspapers, published histories, photographs, or other clues to club or county 4-H history.

County Fair Organization

The boys and girls club movement got its start in many counties with contests (corn, calf, canning, sewing, etc.) at the county fair. Contact your county fair secretary or manager for assistance in locating a written history, photographs, or other materials.

Wisconsin State Historical Society

Has an incredible wealth of historical information including all back issues of most Wisconsin community newspapers. Your local historical society or librarian can help you contact the State Historical Society, or you can contact them directly at 816 State Street, Madison, WI 53706.

University of Wisconsin Archives at Steenbock Library

The archives contain county extension agent annual reports from the beginning of Extension until the early 1950s. These narrative reports often have pictures and are a wonderful source of information. Call (608) 262-0428.



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