

County Homemakers Are The Best Cooks

BY MARJORIE MEGIVERN

There's one good answer to the question, "Where are Brunswick County's best cooks?" In extension homemaker clubs, of course!

The county's eight clubs, organized by the Agriculture Extension office, meet monthly to sharpen their homemaking skills, and an important feature of the meetings is refreshment time, when goodies brought by a member are enjoyed and recipes exchanged.

Town Creek's club has only eight members at present, but each one is a kitchen whiz and eager to contribute the favorite recipes printed below.

President Marie Wescott said the group accomplishes more than self-improvement. "We're responsible for this house being here," she said of the attractive building in Town Creek Park where the club meets, equipped with kitchen, bathroom, and large, carpeted meeting room.

"The original plans of Parks and Recreation for this park included only bike trails and ball fields," she explained. "So we got up a petition for this building. Our husbands have added things to it... my husband made that podium and coat racks and we bought a flag."

She said the senior citizens, who also meet there, have helped furnish and decorate the facility, as well.

Clubs also help their community and county through various projects. Town Creek began last year awarding Brunswick Technical College scholarships to young homemakers in the county.

"We help Hope Harbor, the home for abused women and children, too," Wescott said, "and we're trying to organize an auxiliary for the fire and rescue squads at Town Creek."

Town Creek is one of the county's oldest clubs, having been in existence more than 40 years. Of the others, Guys and Dolls includes husbands, and the one in Bolivia is all-black.

The purpose for all is to learn every phase of homemaking: canning, freezing, nutrition, family living, and budgeting, to mention a few. A program is presented at each meeting on one of these topics.

There's always a devotional, too, and in the Town Creek club, it's usually given by Susan Kelly, who, with her husband, conducts a personal "lighthouse ministry" that sprang from their association with PTL.

The July meeting featured a program on values by member Lena Beacham, with lively discussion by listeners. Besides Beacham, Wescott and Kelly, members include Marie Young, Alma Anderson, Hilda Lewis, Letha Rabon and Louise Harrison.

A feeling of closeness prevails as the eight Town Creek women get together, cover a table with a lace cloth, add a vase of crepe myrtle brought from home, and spread it with the treat of the month. Then they sit down to listen and visit and plan.

And how these warm-hearted

homemakers enjoy cooking and eating! Here are some reasons why... recipes from the Town Creek Extension Homemakers Club:

Peanut Butter Sticks

1 loaf day-old white bread
1 pound creamy peanut butter
 $\frac{3}{4}$ C oil
box graham crackers
Mash crackers to make fine crumbs. Trim crusts from bread slices and cut each slice in six strips. Place on cookie sheet and bake at 300 degrees about 15 minutes till crisp.

In large saucepan, melt peanut butter and oil on low heat. Dip bread strips in the mixture till coated and drain on a brown paper bag. Then roll in crumbs.

These can be stored for two or three weeks in a covered container. Makes about 100.

—Marie Young

Squash Casserole

3 cups boiled, salted squash
1 can cream of chicken soup
1 grated carrot

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STAFF PHOTO BY MARJORIE MEGIVERN

TOWN CREEK HOMEMAKERS admire the embroidered copy of their creed made by Hilda Lewis, who

displays it. From left they are, Lena Beacham, Marie Young, Susan Kelly, and Marie Wescott.



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