

Jennie Parsons was elected the first president and continued in that office for four years.

On Sept. 29, 1951, Chapter U celebrated its Golden Anniversary at the Waverly Hotel. Miss Jennie Parsons was the only charter member present. One other living charter member, Mrs. Lena Armstrong Lewis, was unable to attend.

Since its beginning 154 members have been initiated into Chapter U and many have been received from other chapters.

HOME ECONOMICS CLUB

A small group of women met at the home of Mrs. Carrie Bates, Feb. 18, 1914 and organized the Shelbina Home Economics Club from a membership of an embroidery and sewing club. The 10 charter members were Mrs. Irene Smith, chairman; Mrs. Eleanor Gillispie, vice-chairman; Mrs. Carrie Bates, secy.-treas.; Mrs. Laura Bates, Mrs. Anna Daniel, Miss Dixie Dean, Mrs. Bess Jewett, Mrs. Nora Dean, Mrs. Inez Weaver and Mrs. Sue Weaver. The club now has a standing membership of 35 members.

The club did war work during both World Wars and has sponsored civic and community projects. Cook books were published in 1937, 1952 and 1956, a total of 2,528 copies, the funds derived being used as a loan for high school students needing help to go to college.

ROYAL NEIGHBORS OF AMERICA

Feb. 9, 1906 twenty-three people gathered in the Woodman Hall to organize the Royal Neighbors Lodge. Of these 23, only two are now living, Mrs. S. T. Hardy of Shelbina and Mrs. Charles Springer of Norman, Okla.

The Shelbina Camp now has a membership of 131 and meets monthly. Approximately one-third the membership lives in Shelbina.

The charter members were Mrs. Kate Worland, Myrtle B. Threlkeld, Sara Weaver, Maggie Tillitt, Myrtle May Tenney, Emma Thomas, Ida Kerns, Mary A. Springer, Kathe Chatman, George Beranger, Kate Smock, Peggie Schmidt, Rosa Stapleton, Josie Poor, May Oliver, Emma Lamb, Laura B. Harrison, Alice Gibson, Ella Gollehon, Belle Ford, W. D. Fox, Margaret Fox, Charles Chatman.

SHELBINA GARDEN CLUB

Eight women met in the home of Mrs. B. I. Day June 26, 1947 to organize a Garden Club. The eight present were Mrs. Earl Burt, Mrs. John Yost, Mrs. Welch Greenwell, Mrs. LeRoy Haden, Mrs. Arthur Sherry, Mrs. Roy Neff and Mrs. Day. The club's announced purpose was to beautify the town. Charter was presented May 19, 1948.

In January, 1948 the club made plans for 128 bluebird houses on Highway 36 from Monroe City to 2 miles west of Clarence. Much help came from country schools, cub scouts and campfire girls. Another project was landscaping the entrance to Lake Park.

BETTER HOMES AND GARDEN CLUB

The Better Homes and Garden Club of Shelbina was organized Jan. 10, 1950 as a "Federated Garden Club." The motto, contributed by Helen Lucas, is "May Our Lives Be As Beautiful As Our Flowers." Charter members were Doris Buckman, Helen Buckman, Dorothy Buckman, Rosalee Buckman, Lavyrne Chain, Mary Dobyns, Thelma Gough, Betty Hayes, Lena Hubble, Helen Lucas, Frances Purdy, Mary A. Sharp, Miriam Pruden and Josephine Williams.

The club had flower boxes built and placed on each side of the White Way posts in the business district. It also landscaped the north entrance to Lake Park. Each Easter the club takes potted plants to the residents of Pleasant Hill Rest Home, Shelbyville.

SUNNY HOUR GARDEN CLUB

The Sunny Hour Garden Club, also a Federated Garden Club, was organized Feb. 25, 1952 at the home of Mrs. Claude Loflin, the first president. There were 34 charter members. The club has sponsored landscaping of the city disposal plant and parts of Lake Park. At the present time there are 36 members.

THE WOMAN'S CLUB

On April 17, 1924, Mrs. C. P. Dobyns invited a group of women to her home to consider organization of a Federated Woman's Club, which was done with Mrs. Dobyns as the first president. Other charter members were Miss Gertrude Dobyns, Mrs. John Lyell, Mrs. Warren Rash, Miss Frances Holman, Mrs. Elmer Magruder, Mrs. Pauline Caldwell, Mrs. Nelle Tillitt Lasley (Brown), Mrs. Ray Bedwell, Mrs. Mary Deems, Mrs. K. R. Peterson, and Miss Helen Jones. Miss Gertrude Dobyns is the only charter member still active today (1957).

For at least 10 years the home of Mrs. C. P. Dobyns was the "Clubhouse" or meeting place. The club was responsible for flower boxes in the uptown section and flower beds at the depot.

Started and continuously sponsored by the club are the Camp Fire Girls, and an interest in the Pleasant Hill Rest Home (formerly county infirmary). Each Easter and Thanksgiving cake and ice cream are taken to the Home by members. At Christmas gifts are taken. Furniture and accessories have been placed in rooms.

Mrs. O. L. Wright, a member, has served as president of the Third District. At the present time there are 39 members.

49'ers HOME ECONOMICS CLUB

Seven daughters and daughters-in-law of Home Economics Club members met May 4, 1949 to organize a similar club for the younger generation. The charter members, nine, were Mrs. W. B. Roads (Betty Barkeley), Mrs. Paul Hayes (Betty Green), Mrs. Jack Hayes (Kay Tuttle), Joan Greenwell (Mrs. Tom Bierly), Edith Lyle Caldwell (Mrs. Jim Rutter), Mrs. Bob Threlkeld (Marilyn Roads), Mrs. Ben Dobyns, Jr. (Mary Hughes), Mrs. Carter Blanton (Margaret Beedie), and Fay Rice.

Today the club has 30 members. Through the years 1950, 1951 and 1952, the club held a minstrel, the proceeds going to projects for the youth of the community. Beginning in 1951 the club held "Mothers March on Polio." Each year beginning in 1951, the club gave a Christmas doll with full wardrobe, proceeds being used for youth projects. In 1952 four pieces of playground equipment were bought and installed at the Lake Park. This was augmented by more equipment in 1956. In 1953 the club furnished a room at the Pleasant Hill Rest Home in Shelbyville.

The 49'ers worked hard and received much credit for the success of the elementary school bond election in 1956. It also organized and sponsored the Brownies and Girl Scouts in 1956 and was influential in the organization of the P.T.A. in 1957.