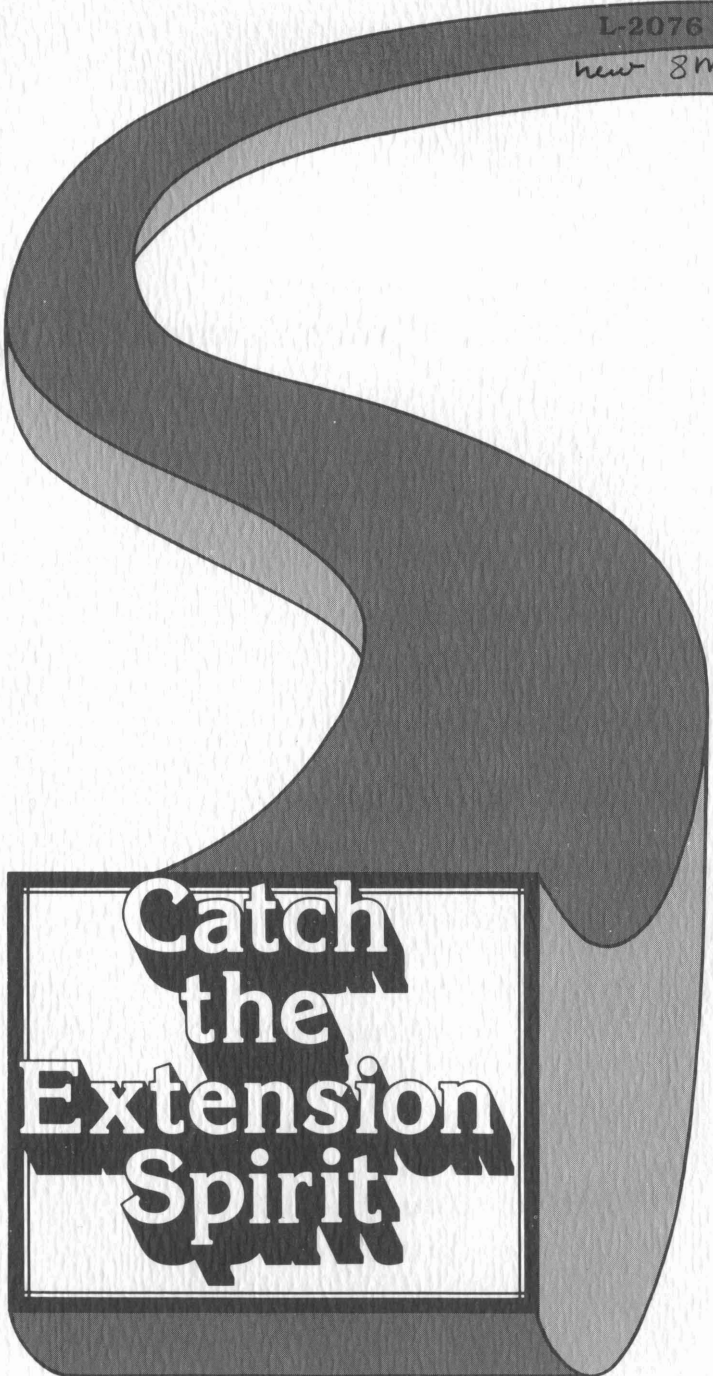


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**Catch
the
Extension
Spirit**

The Texas A&M
University System



**Texas
Agricultural
Extension
Service**

Zerle L. Carpenter, Director
College Station



Join Your County's Program Building Committee

What is the Extension Spirit?

The Extension Spirit is:

- People helping people.
- Accepting responsibility to “do for yourself” instead of waiting for someone else to do it.
- A sense of concern not only for your own family's well-being, but also for other people.
- Caring about your community and county.
- Freedom to take charge and help direct those things that influence your life.
- A sense of self-direction and pride of accomplishment.
- Using opportunities available for personal growth and development.
- Problem solving.
- A special feeling that comes when you have done something worthwhile.

Where Can You Find It?

You do not have to look very far. The Texas Agricultural Extension Service, a part of the Texas A&M University System, provides an educational delivery system that reaches into every county. Contact your local county Extension Service office. Your county Extension agents, who are professional educators, will be eager to help you get involved in one of the most successful systems of informal education ever devised.



To Catch the Spirit . . .

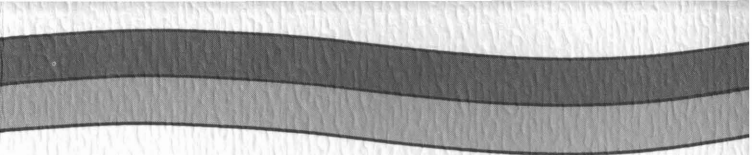
Join forces with other volunteers already serving on the County Program Building Committee. This group provides leadership and direction to the county Extension educational program. Some new members are selected each year.

As a member you will:

- Become part of an organization and educational system that puts people first.
- Attend committee meetings along with others from different parts of the county.
- Represent the views of people in the community as well as your own.
- Communicate problems and needs of people to the committee.
- Help plan educational events directed toward problem solving.
- Let others know about planned programs and encourage them to attend.
- Assist the committee and Extension agents in conducting and evaluating educational events.
- Be recognized as one who holds a responsible position of leadership.
- Meet new friends from other parts of the county.
- Have opportunities to work with Extension specialists and other resource people who are experts in their fields.
- See many improvements in people's lives and know that you had a part in them.

There's More. Read On . . .

The Texas Agricultural Extension Service extends the most current information available from both public and private research to citizens whom it can benefit. Extension now provides educational



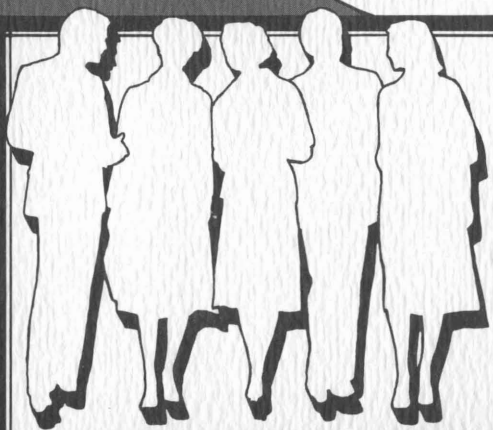
assistance in more than 70 subject matter areas. Extension's major program area responsibilities are agriculture and natural resources, home economics, 4-H and youth, and community development. Extension programs are directed toward "helping people to help themselves" in solving problems. These educational efforts are so varied that they have the potential to make a difference in the lives of all Texans, regardless of where they live or their methods of making a living. For example, programs are provided on topics such as mineral rights and leasing, landscaping, income tax, time management, medical self-help and crime prevention, to name a few.

How the Extension Spirit Works . . .

Extension begins with people — your problems — your concerns. County Extension agents involve people in determining what educational programs are needed. They work with a volunteer organization referred to in most counties as the Program Building Committee. More than 18,000 Texas citizens serve as leaders on County Program Building Committees.

The overall county committee includes several smaller committees, each dealing with a specialized program area of concern. The Committee helps agents identify problems and opportunities, and plans and conducts educational programs that people need. Committees and agents utilize a variety of educational methods such as workshops, tours, seminars, short courses, clinics, publications, mass media, mail-out series and others.

Plans are made months in advance so the Extension Service at the state level can schedule the educational resources and resource people for your county. The most current information available can be provided through these educational programs.



**Be a part of the Extension spirit.
It's what Extension is all about
— people helping people.**

This publication was prepared by Burl Richardson and Mary G. Marshall, Extension program specialists. For further information about participating in Extension programs, contact your local county Extension office.

Educational programs conducted by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, handicap or national origin.

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