



FOR THE  
FARM  
WIFE  
AND  
FAMILY

**Mrs. Greenleaf Organized The First Quarryville Fair In 1950**

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Lancaster Farming Staff Writer

Twenty years ago an idea became a reality because of an individual who was willing to put her shoulder to the wheel. She was none other than Mrs. Martin C. Greenleaf, better known to the residents of southern Lancaster County as Sadie. At the time she was president of the Society of Farm Women of Lancaster County. For a few years the Farm Women Societies of the southern section of Lancaster County had been talking about the possibility of having an agricultural fair. Then one day Mrs. Owen Groff wrote a letter to Mrs. Greenleaf raising the question why the Farm Women couldn't organize a fair for southern Lancaster County. These six societies had 250 members at the time. This gave Sadie the impetus to do something. She wrote letters to the County Agent, The Solanco High School principal, the head of the high school Agriculture Department, the local banks and the local service clubs such as the Farm Women's Societies, the Granges, the Quarryville Lions Club, the Rotary Club etc. All agreed to

back the movement. A meeting was called and they organized with Mr. Stanley Musselman as their president. The various officers and directors were elected and the first fair was held in September 1950.

The Quarryville Fire Company, C. E. Wiley & Son farm implement dealer and J. Earl Newsinger furniture store owner granted them the use of their buildings and Jerome H. Rhoads permitted them to use his grounds adjoining the Fire House. Many local citizens assumed duties such as serving on committees for the various departments. The Farm Women Societies manned the refreshment and novelty stands and cooked dinners each evening of the fair for hundreds of people and served the lunches at midday. They donated much of the food and all their time and it was from these proceeds that the premiums were paid. They did this for about ten years and after the Fair Association started receiving state aid they accepted half the profits realized from their work. No admission has ever been charged to see the fair. Other service groups,



MRS. MARTIN GREENLEAF holds the poster for the fair and has before her the fair catalog. The plaque is the "Woman of the Year" award she received in 1959. In the background may be seen some of her prized antique dishes.

L. F. Photo

Quarryville and area businessmen and individuals have likewise donated money to sponsor bands for the parade, savings bonds and gifts for the Harvest Queen contestants, prizes for Rural Youth awards etc., etc. Other service organizations have been selling food and giving half the profit to the Fair Association also. Last year over \$2200 was spent for premiums.

The officers and directors from the start incorporated in their by-laws that no concessions nor gambling would be permitted and in place of these the area churches have a unique Hall of Religion where people attending the fair may rest, meditate, listen to religious music and avail themselves of the religious literature and view their exhibits etc. A high quality form of entertainment is provided each evening of the fair. The fair has a very fine exhibit of all kinds of farm products and animals and also a very large commercial display of farm machinery, automobiles, appliances, feeds, fertilizers, seeds, etc.

The Southern Lancaster County Community Fair is the first one held in the county each year. It will be held this year September 17, 18 and 19. It is now held at the Quarryville Memorial Park. Mrs. Greenleaf has been a director of the fair and has served as chairman of the Refreshment Committee for the twenty years of the fair's existence. This year for the first no meals will be served by the Farm Women at the Fire Hall as it is too far removed from the fair grounds but food will be available at the various food stands on the grounds.

Mrs. Greenleaf is Secretary of the Society of Farm Women of Pennsylvania, having been elected last January for a three year term. In addition to attending the State convention she is called upon to attend some neighboring county conventions. She sends out Executive Committee notices regularly and assists the State president as directed. She served as president of Lancaster County Farm Women 1948-1950. She is an active member of Society #15 and has served as their president, secretary and has been on the Ways and Means Committee about forty percent of the time she has belonged. The Society has approximately 45 members.

She has been attending Homemakers Camp which is held at Camp Swatara in Berks County

for thirty years whenever she could. It was held last Saturday through Tuesday. Originally it was conducted by the Extension Association but has been conducted largely by interested farm women for the past several years. It provides 48 hours of good relaxation, fun and entertainment besides instruction in worthwhile crafts for rural women.

Mrs. Greenleaf says "the most important work of my life is my church." She was brought up in the Mennonite church, joined the Quarryville Memorial Methodist Church as a girl and since marriage has been a member of the Union Presbyterian Church, near her home, where she is now serving as an elder. She is the first and the only woman to serve in this capacity in this church. Six months ago she was honored to assist the pastor in baptizing her youngest granddaughter, Debbie Greenleaf. She is on leave of absence, due to her health, as Sunday School teacher of the Women's Bible Class and had taught the Beginners Class and high school girls previously. She sang in the church choir for about five years. She has served as president of the Women's Association and as Circle leader several times. She has been working on a committee for the past four years writing the 150 year his-

tory of her church. They hope to have it finished and published this year. She served two years as Circle Advisor on the Donegal Presbyterian Women's Association Executive Board.

Mrs. Greenleaf was selected by the Quarryville Chamber of Commerce as the "Women Of The Year" in 1959. Nominations were submitted from various organizations and individuals in the area and a panel of judges made the selection.

"I take an interest in politics. I think it's a privilege and a responsibility," says Mrs. Greenleaf. She has helped on committees etc. and has served on the county and federal jury several times.

She was 4-H Leader in Coleman Township for a good many years. She was leader for the Flower Club and the Cooking Club.

Mrs. Greenleaf is an artist. She started doing oil paintings about five years ago and has done 50 to 75. Her favorites are pictures of churches and scenes. The last one was the Bellevue Presbyterian Church at the Gap. She says "I always liked painting. When I got my youngest son in college I started to paint." She studies under Charles X. Carlson of Kinks Mills. She is Vice-President of Octoraro Art Club. She is also interested in other arts and crafts. She makes weed craft cards to send to her friends as birthday and get-well cards. She has made some metal-craft pictures. She makes stone and shell jewelry and she makes smoked and towel sofa pillows, hooked and braided rugs. She also sews, makes many of her own clothes.

Sadie was a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Herr. Mr. Herr was associated with A. L. Herr & Brother feed business of Quarryville. She and Mr. Greenleaf celebrated their fortieth wedding anniversary last June. They own their two-farm unit of 230 acres and rent two farms which totals about 450 acres they farm. They had a herd of 120 Angus cattle until their barn burned July of 1968. Since that time they have built a steer barn and plan to fatten steers. Mr. Greenleaf also does a lot of custom combining, silo filling and corn picking. Mrs. Greenleaf used to bale hay and straw and just about any kind of work out in the fields until three years ago when her health would not permit.

The Greenleafs have four children. Anna, a trained nurse, is married to Kenneth Skyles and they have four children. Edgar is District Manager for J. I. Case Company. At present time he is on a business trip in Wisconsin showing machinery at the Wisconsin State Fair. He is married.

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IN THE PAINTING on the wall, Mrs. Greenleaf has captured the building (it isn't standing now) that history records as the place where the first shot of the Civil War was fired. It is the Christians Riot House where a U.S. Marshal's son was shot. Slaves from Maryland had been sheltered here and the U.S. Marshal and son from the South came for them.

On the beautiful antique desk may be seen some of her weed craft cards.

L. F. Photo



A FAVORITE STILL LIFE PICTURE.