

Decades Of Fashions

Intrigue Frederick Farm Women

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Maryland Correspondent

WOODSBORO, Md. — It was something old, something new, something country, something city as two women's groups here joined together to celebrate a century of fashions. Sponsored jointly by the Frederick County Farm Bureau Women and the Frederick Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc., the Decades of Fashions program served as this year's Farm-City activity for the Farm Bureau Women, and drew a crowd of almost 300 to the Fireman's Activities building in Woodsboro.

"This is the first time we've had a joint venture to promote Farm-City week," noted Louise Ediger, Farm-City committee member, "We felt that through fashion we could reach out to women," she explained of the women's decision to join with the Business and Professional women. The county farm women have a history of very successful outreach programs for Farm-City week, and last year were honored with an award for their service at the state level. Funds raised by the program benefit scholarship programs, community projects, and the educational promotion of agriculture.

The fashion review followed a social hour and buffet dinner of baked ham and roasted turkey. John Fieseler, a member of Frederick County's 250th anniversary committee, served as master of ceremonies for the event, and Diane Ogg, Frederick County farm queen, offered the invocation. First historical fashions were modeled by the farm women. Mary Jane Roop served as commentator. Although the fashions would have charmed the audience on their looks alone, Roop's colorful, thoroughly researched comments added another layer of appreciation by placing each fashion in its historical context. Many of the women modeled clothing worn by their relatives long ago, and others donned historically accurate reproductions. In many cases the audience was treated to a narrative of a day in the life of a farm woman with a name still



Bill and Barbara Crum were attired as a hardworking farm couple of days gone by. Barbara wore a traditional long-sleeved, ankle length dress of blue gingham. The apron is accented with blue daisies. A sun bonnet and an egg basket completed her outfit. Her husband Bill was dressed in bib overalls and a crisp chambray work shirt. He wore a broadbrimmed straw hat and carried a red bandana and a two-pronged hay fork.

common in today's farming community.

Florence Shell of Walkersville, a collector of period clothing, graciously lent seven outfits from her extensive collection to the Farm Bureau women for the gala event. Mrs. Shell provided more than 20 outfits for the 75th anniversary fashion show in 1996 put on by the women's committee. Her generosity has made it possible for the community to enjoy a wide array of antique fashions.

In all 15 old-time fashions were displayed on the runway to the delighted audience. They ranged from wedding dresses to mourning attire; from women's swim-

wear to children's playclothes. Each garment was significant in its own merit. The youngest model was master Roy Patrick Amaral, modeling a 1912 baptismal gown that was owned and originally worn by Katherine Morgan Stull. The gown was lovingly made by her grandmother, Carrie Eyler Morgan from 100% cotton with an intricately pleated top. Hemmed in eyelet, the tiny creation has 10 rows of pleats on the bottom. Master Amaral was carried by his proud grandmother who wore a promenade dress of mauve cotton print with weskit jacket.

Following the historical fashion show, the Business and Professional Women presented a parade of clothing suitable for today's professional women.

Scholarship Applications

HACKETTSTOWN, N. J. — The Firman E. Bear Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society has announced it is accepting applications for the Edward Hall Scholarship.

Natural resource majors in a broad range of categories are eligible for the \$500 scholarship. Applicants must be full-time students attending a New Jersey accredited college or be New Jersey residents attending an out-of-state school, who have completed at least two semesters of study by the January 1998 award date.

Application deadline is Dec. 15, 1997. Applications are available through the chapter's website at <http://pato.njcc.com/~paolini.njswcs.htm> or by calling Laura McNichol at the Warren County Soil Conservation District (908) 852-2579.



Julie Roop demonstrated what a fashionable young lady living in the early 1900's might wear.

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