

ARKANSAS EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS COUNCIL
ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

Official transcript of:

Imodean Floyd

Member of Franklin Extension Homemakers Club

Original recording made 22 November 2011

at Izard County Fairgrounds
Melbourne, Arkansas

Recorded, transcribed and edited by:

Jeralene Love
Izard County Extension Homemakers Council President





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Oral History Program

Jeralene Love, Izard County Extension Homemakers Council President

22 November 2011

This is an audio recording of Imodean Floyd, member of the Franklin Extension Homemakers Club. This interview is part of an Arkansas Extension Homemakers Council Oral History Program, and Imodean is answering questions asked by Izard County Extension Homemakers Council President, Jeralene Love.

Questions and comments by Jeralene are in boldface type. Imodean's responses and comments are in lightface type.

I am Jeralene Love. This is the interview with Imodean Floyd for the Arkansas Extension Homemakers Council Oral History Program. This is being done November 22, 2011, at the Izard County Fairgrounds in Melbourne, Arkansas, in Izard County.

The audio recordings and transcript of this interview will be donated to the David and Barbara Pryor Center for Arkansas Oral and Visual History at the University of Arkansas.

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Are you willing to give the Pryor Center permission to make the audio file and transcript available to others?

Yes, I am.

First, I'd like you to give your complete legal name and spell it for me,

Imodean I-m-o-d-e-a-n F-l-o-y-d Floyd.

All right, and what city and county do you presently reside?

I live in Franklin in IZARD County.

This is going to be a very informal interview. I want you to share your memories of your involvement with the Extension Homemakers Program—the good times and the challenges.

And your association with the Extension program is a member, right?

Yes, I am.

How did you learn about the Extension Homemakers program?

Well, the first time I ever heard of it was back whenever I was about 10 years old and my neighbor had a club meeting and they showed them how to kill a chicken. And they hung them up by their feet and slit their neck, throat and let 'em [them] bleed out, and I thought that was terrible. But when I joined—started one club— my sister-in-law invited me to go to hers and I went to Rashional Roberts down in the country and I can't remember the agent's name, but she made—oh, a biscuit mix. Back then you didn't get the self-rising flour. You made it from scratch. And so she showed us how to make the mix.

How long ago was that?

That was in [19]53.

[19]53?

Uh-hum.

What was the first club that you were in?

It's Franklin.

And that's the club your still in?

Yes, it is.

You're still a member?

Um-Hum.

OK. And that is Franklin Club in Izard County, and we're in the Ozark District. You have told the special memories of that first meeting, and why you joined, so why have you continued your membership?

Well, I have enjoyed it, and I have learned a lot and made many many friends.

Did you hold an office, or have you?

I have held every office there are in my club. But I've had to give them up the last few years.

Were you ever a county officer?

I think I was at one time. I think I was a—oh, at one time I think I was, but I couldn't find out when in my things.

OK. I'm sure you've belonged to many chairmanships.

Yes I have.

And had special responsibilities?

Yes.

OK. Have you ever attended a state Council meeting?

Yes, I attended two. And my first one I went with Dottie Stewart and Miss Caldwell and Pearl Shell. And we went to Hot Springs and we went to an auction, jewelry auction. And me and Mrs. Caldwell never went anywhere. We

was kindly backwards and everything, but the other two they had been all over the world cuz [because] they was veterans' wives. And we went to this here auction and Dottie and Mrs. Pearl they bought them a diamond ring a piece. One of 'em was \$8,000, and I don't remember how much other was so they had 'em put in the safe that night. They didn't sleep none that night. They got up the next morning, called the bank and had their checks turned down.

Oh, my goodness.

That was my first meeting. [*Laughs*]

Well, that must have been interesting.

[*Laughs*] It was.

How has Extension Homemakers touched your life?

Well, it has touched my life in many, many ways. I can't say any special one.

OK. What's been your favorite event or activity that you have done in your club?

Well, as she say. Demonstrations in the home, showing how to do things. And I had three little girls and they showed us how to take one pattern and make the whole family different dresses.

OK. Is there anything that stands out as your favorite event or activity, anything that was your favorite?

Well, I guess my favorite was when my dad took us on a picnic. It was about a year before he died. And he took us to Blanchard Springs and we took food and we had a picnic down below the springs.

What changes have you experienced in the Extension Homemakers Club?

Oh many, many.

Such as?

It was, well the way we worked in our homes, well everything. Everything in a club has changed since I joined.

They don't teach the same things.

No, they don't.

Has Extension Homemakers taught you about people, have you learned about people?

Well, I have learned that some of 'em is thinkers, some of 'em is doers, and some of 'em is troublemakers.

[Laughs] OK. Any other memories, experiences or thoughts that you would like to share other than what you have already told us?

Well, I have made many, many friends and I have had a lot of my dearest friends have passed away and they were all—I had one well it was very very special to me and her name was Faye Williams, and she was right there every time we done anything. She helped us.

How many years have you won being the oldest member in EHC at our Pioneer Day?

[Laughs] I don't know they's up on my wall. My daughter put 'em on my wall— me begging her not to. [Laughs]

'Bout [About] how many?

Well, let me see—five or six.

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I can imagine. OK. Thanks. Thank you for all your contributions to Extension Homemakers and for sharing your time and memories with us.

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