

1949 Iowa Master Farm Homemakers Guild Inductees

Each year, Wallaces' Farmer and Iowa Homestead recognizes the Iowa farm women who have been selected as Master Farm Homemakers.

It's not easy for the judges to make these selections. Many farm women do an excellent job in homemaking, yet take time to do much community work.

Because we can not recognize all who could qualify, we honor the five shown here, and in so doing honor all fine farm women who are outstanding homemakers.

Some live on small farms, others on large ones. But they are all typical farm women, who live and work and raise their families on farms. All are fine homemakers and have the respect and admiration of their communities.

We were fortunate to have as judges Miss Louise Rosenfeld, director of home economics at Iowa State College; Mrs. Mabel Hewitt, supervisor of home economics at Iowa State College, and Miss Fannie Gannon, well known over Iowa for her work in home management.

Mrs. Arthur Tibben - IMFH Class of 1949

Iowa County

Mrs. Tibben lives on an 80-acre farm with her husband and two children, John 11 and Mama 12. Both children are 4-H Club members.

Mr. and Mrs. Tibben purchased their home in 1939 with a tenant-purchased loan which is all paid off, and they are now rebuilding their home.

Mrs. Tibben, a teacher before marriage, has served as county Farm Bureau chairman. She is now township chairman. She is active in 4-H Club work. This past year she has been in charge of one of the classes in the Marengo adult school.

She has served as district president of the Lutheran Missionary League.

Mrs. Ed O'Neil - IMFH Class of 1949

Clay County

Mr. and Mrs. Ed O'Neil live on a 240-acre farm north of Spencer. One of their two sons lives on the home place; the other is an architect in Des Moines.

Mrs. O'Neil was a teacher before her marriage. She has been active in the Farm Bureau, church, Sunday school and rural women's groups. She has been county library chairman for five or six years. Three of these years, Clay County was high in the state.

She writes a column for the Spencer Times, called "Thru Country Lanes."

Her home has been remodeled and is entirely modern and very comfortable. Both Mr. and Mrs. O'Neil have wide interests.

Mrs. Earl Dean - IMFH Class of 1949

Cerro Gordo County

Mr. and Mrs. Dean are parents of three fine sons, 20, 18 and 10.

They live on a 320-acre farm a few miles south of Mason City. The eldest son attends Iowa State College, the second boy goes to Mason City Junior College, and the youngest boy attends the local grade school.

The Deans are musical, and are active in all musical circles both in the rural community and in Mason City.

Mrs. Dean is an active member of the Congregational Church in Mason City. She was presented with a diamond pin for her 20 years' service as a 4-H Club leader this last year. She has also served as county home project chairman.

Mrs. Merle Twinam - IMFH Class of 1949

Washington County

Mr. and Mrs. Twinam live near Crawfordsville on a 160-acre farm. There are two children, Charles, a sophomore at Iowa State College, who will come back to the farm after graduation. Virginia is a freshman in high school.

Mrs. Twinam keeps up an attractive home, takes part in community activities, and for the last year has been a member of the Iowa Farm Bureau women's committee.

She is active in the United Presbyterian church and Sunday school in Crawfordsville. She has been a 4-H Club leader, and both children have been active members.

The Twinams have both done much work to better community life.

Mrs. LeRoy Witmer - IMFH Class of 1949

Cedar County

Mrs. Witmer is a former school teacher. She was raised in town, but has adapted herself to farm life unusually well. Mr. and Mrs. Witmer live on a 170-acre farm not far from Tipton. They have two children, a boy in high school and a girl in grade school.

Mrs. Witmer recently published a "Farm Woman's Creed." She composed this while driving a tractor for plowing.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Witmer are active in church and the community. They attend the Methodist church in Tipton.

Mrs. Witmer is younger than the average Master Farm Homemaker, but she is doing an excellent job with her family and in community life.