

4-H CAMP BUILDING FUND, TREASURER, MILDRED STUART

The original camp plans prepared in 1939, called for a Dining/Assembly Hall that was still in the plans in 1956 when Katie Stephenson left the county and Mildred Stuart began as secretary in the Extension Office.

In 1958, the co-chairmen on this project were Extension Program Assistant, Donna Gail Michel and 4-H Leader, Nova Lee Cecil.

Many Extension Agents and Program Assistants came and went while the secretary, Millie Stuart, held the office and the programs together. (One time, both agents were gone and she held the office and programs together all by herself for six months.) She typed and mimeographed the letters and co-ordinated the efforts for the 4-H Camp Building Fund for her entire 16 years of employment.

When Mr. and Mrs. Brown Umberger gave the first contribution in 1965, she became the Treasurer and the project was underway.

Millie handled over 700 different contributions from a great population of Wetzel County citizens and taxpayers who contributed the \$55,000 and the 1144 hours of reported free labor furnished mostly by members of the Farm Bureau, Saddle Club, Hikers and Campers, Cattleman's Association, Town & Country Days, Homemakers Clubs and 4-H Leaders and members.

When she retired in 1972, some of the more involved citizens asked the County Court to appoint her to the 4-H Camp Advisory Board to represent the great mass of private citizens, organizations and taxpayers who had made the necessary contributions to finance the project. She has served in that unpaid capacity for 18 years explaining calmly and sometimes not so calmly to the dozens of changing faces who don't understand how the whole story unfolded.

Millie never uses the camp for free or half price except in the course of helping the 4-H Leaders with camp or Achievement Banquet or attending another function while the 4-H Leaders have it reserved already.

*Beulah Talkington*

Beulah Talkington, Secretary 1990  
Wetzel County 4-H Camp Advisory Board