

Novice scientists get results

By LYNN ORR

Although scientific journals may fail to appreciate their discoveries, O.E. Dunckel Junior High students are once again astounding the Farmington community with their experiments.

Crammed with more than 400 science projects, Dunckel's gym was the scene for the district's most successful annual science fair, as seventh, eighth and ninth grade students previewed their experiments.

George Formin, an eighth grader, hopes his experiments with paramnesia, a microbe, will go on to the Cobo Hall Science Fair scheduled for March 23-28.

And his teacher, Jane Estep, believes the project has a good chance to go big.

"The students had a choice of several things, but about half chose projects," she said. "It's part of their grade, but some of them get more ex-

cited about it than just getting a decent grade. George's project was inspired by the results of his studies with the paramnesia's reaction to different solutions, such as salt, baking powder, tea and cleanser.

"How long they could live and what effects there were" is how he describes it.

A MAGNIFYING GLASS attached to the box of samples helps the viewer examine the varying effects of the solutions, and a pegboard backdrop is covered with details on how the experiment was conducted.

Robert Cornfield's Colortron demonstrates color differences, including photographs the eighth grade student snapped in various lights.

"I didn't pay attention to colors before, and now I realize how much there is in it," said the young scientist. Using diagrams, he constructed a

project that includes an electrical master unit to control 14 lights: four white bulbs, four daylight bulbs and six white lights with colored filters.

Dimmer switches can control the degree of light to vary the tints.

Douglas Rapp also experimented with color, from a psychological angle. His project details the effects of color on people, including the results of a questionnaire he submitted to his science class.

"I adapted my quiz from an article I found," said the psychologist. "I wanted to see how color affects people and draw conclusions on the test."

DOUGLAS DISCOVERED his study lacked validity because of the small number of subjects sampled, but results from his class reveal that boys prefer blue, girls prefer green, and both sexes favor gray least.

"Girls use more color phrases when they talk," he said.

Science teachers Ms. Estep and Bob Winters want the students to come up with a problem and research it. Empirical scientific techniques are the goal. "When they take on a problem, they're learning how to go about the study correctly," Ms. Estep said. The goal is learning how to analyze something and finding the correct procedures.

And the rest of the class benefits from the research as each student gives an oral demonstration of his project.

"My students wouldn't have heard about a lot of these things if the students hadn't gone into it," she adds.

"WE'RE CREATING a bit of a name for ourselves," Winters adds. "We took more than our share of awards in the regional show last year."

Although the three boys demonstrated their projects to the Observer staff Friday, the female sex is well represented in the show, according to Ms. Estep.

Last year, her student Kim Garver took top honors at Cobo for eighth graders, and she hopes many of the students have a chance to compete in the March show.



Douglas Rapp's science project, "The Psychology of Color," has a few surprises about the effects of color on science students.

Farmington business women learn about organization

More than 100 women who recently braved arctic temperatures now have a lot more knowledge about what the Business and Professional Women's Club has to offer.

A five-hour workshop "What You Always Wanted to Know About BPW But Were Afraid to Ask" in Roma's of Garden City, explored the club's beginning, its accomplishment and plans for the future.

The workshop was sponsored by District IX of the Michigan Federation of BPW which includes clubs from Livonia, Plymouth, Westland, Garden City, South Redford, Lola Valley, Farmington, Northville, Novi and Wayne.

On hand for the districtwide project was BPW Michigan Past President Joyce Mallory and members from clubs throughout southeast Michigan. The workshop was a first in the district's history.

Welcoming the BPW delegation to Garden City was Councilwoman Geraldine Kiesel, president of the Garden City club. Mrs. Kiesel presented District IX Director Maybelle Shon with a proclamation recognizing the efforts of BPW on behalf of women.

Workshop topics, presented by panels from district clubs, included club history; cancer fund, scholarships, legislation, membership, public relations, talent bank, awards and competitive programs.

Plymouth BPW members Grace Rix and Connie Fitzner used a skit to trace the club's history from its birth in 1919 to the present. Mrs. Fitzner noted that the BPW has been a long-time supporter of equal rights. "We endorsed it when it was first introduced in the '30s."

Mrs. Rix explained the BPW's emblem, Nike, the winged goddess of victory which depicts strength, freedom and triumph.

Clara Karr of Livonia explained the BPW's commitment to helping fight cancer. She told members about the club's cancer fund and how mem-

bers who need help can apply.

Improved training of women who want to enter the labor market is among BPW's chief concerns. Nadine Freeman of South Redford and Mary Jane Pritchard of Lola Valley outlined scholarship opportunities available to all women through BPW.

Focusing on the BPW's commitment to the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) were Plymouth members Jean Wagner, Daisy Proctor and Elizabeth Donnelly. The trio illustrated the organization's commitment to legislation in a skit and urged the audience to continue the fight for passage of ERA.

This is an amendment that every woman should know. We should even carry a copy of it in our purses," said Mrs. Wagner, a Plymouth attorney.

New members are vital to the strength of BPW, said Marlene Danol of Northville. "New members are everyone's responsibility," said Mrs. Danol, who added that recruiting from the ranks of local businesses is just one way of attracting new members.

She suggested using membership teas or special programs to acquaint prospective members with the goals of BPW. "Retaining those members depends on program, atmosphere and leadership."

"Program is the product BPW sells," explained Charlotte Adams, who along with Joyce Mazzoni outlined the Garden City club's attempts at dealing with issues which interest all members.

Publicizing BPW and its objectives through the media was covered by Susan Rosiek, editor of the Garden City Observer and Garden City BPW President Mrs. Kiesel. "The media play an important part in spreading the message of BPW," said Mrs. Kiesel. Ms. Rosiek offered tips on preparing press releases.

The BPW talent bank, a list of women eligible for appointment to political and professional posts on a

local, state or national level was explained by Mary Samples of Farmington.

Local BPW clubs can give themselves a pat on the back by competing for awards at the state and national level, said Wayne BPW members Gerry Mack and Yoline Smith along with Westlanders Helen Brown and Viola Grassel. They outlined award criteria including the coveted Ann Howard Shaw trophy, an award presented annually at the state convention to the club which presents material substantiating a well-rounded program throughout the year.

Wrapping up the workshop were Diane Bish of Garden City and Louise Cutler of Northville who outlined the BPW Young Career Woman program. The program highlights the outstanding achievements of young women and introduces them to the ideals and standards of the national federation.

"Many of these young people have so much to offer and it's up to us to get them involved," said Mrs. Cutler. "The young career woman program is one way of rewarding them for their accomplishments."

Workshop set for Sue Stone

Susan Stone, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Samuel B. Stone, 28519 Wildwood, Farmington Hills, will spend her winter quarter working at Pathology Association of Southwestern Michigan, P.C., in Benton Harbor.

A junior at Kalamazoo College, Ms. Stone is participating in the college's Career Development Program, which annually places more than 200 students in jobs based on their interests.

Ms. Stone will assist in performing autopsies and vein punctures at Mercy Hospital in Benton Harbor and Memorial Hospital in St. Joseph.

Some jobs carry stipends, while others provide only room and board. Some occupations are strictly voluntary. Students select their own jobs, rather than being assigned to specific positions.

Employers are asked to outline the requirements, duties, and working conditions of positions they have available. They are asked to treat students as regular employees and provide an evaluation of the student's overall performance at the end of their employment.

The objective of the program is to give students an opportunity to explore a possible career choice and gain practical work experience while developing independence and a sense of responsibility, according to college spokesmen.

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Mary Samples of Farmington outlined the BPW talent bank, a list of women candidates who qualify for political and professional appointments at the local, state and national level.