



Some of those Bucks County 4-H'ers who became involved in raising puppies for 4-H include, from left to right, Tom Dickson, Richboro, and his dog Andy; Tom Donnelly, Mechanicsville, and Hallie; Kathy and Karen Lunova, Churchville, who share

Digit; and and Jennifer Montgomery, Buckingham, with Orbit. The three breeds of dogs used for the program are Labrador retrievers, golden retrievers, and German shepherds.

Seeing Eye 4-H puppy projects offered in Pa.

By KENDACE BORRY
LANSDALE — Parts of the Eastern Pennsylvania 4-H program is going to the dogs.

At least that's the way it appears. What is actually happening is that the 4-H Seeing Eye Puppy Project is now being offered in Bucks, Montgomery, Lehigh, and Northampton County, as part of a new program formerly only seen in the state of New Jersey.

According to Mrs. Cathy Cook, consultant for the Seeing Eye for 4-H in Eastern Pa., the program actually began to take form in the Spring of 1978.

Then the Richville Community Club, in Bucks County, became involved in the project. As a sort of "trial run", to see if the program would work in Pennsylvania, the first puppies were "loaned" to their new 4-H'ers in June.

Three ten week old dogs arrived then. Now there are ten animals in that county and two more 4-H'ers are waiting for their puppies.

The puppies are kept for approximately one year. While with their 4-H'er, the dogs are introduced to many experiences, as well as taught obedience and good manners.

The 4-H members meet twice a month, where topics cover obedience, nutrition, first aid, grooming, and household training. The puppy and its owner also have the opportunity to attend such things as camps and fairs, and introduce their dogs to shopping centers, elevators, stairs, and revolving doors.

The Seeing Eye pays a quarterly stipend for food and all vet expenses. At the end of the year, the

young dog is taken back to the Seeing Eye, where it is trained for three months, then introduced to its new owner, when another month of training takes place. Then it departs to its new home as a guide dog for a blind person.

The 4-H'er is allowed to follow up on the progress of the dog, and at the end of the three months, he is invited to follow the dog through town, while it is in harness. A month later, he is told where his dog has gone.

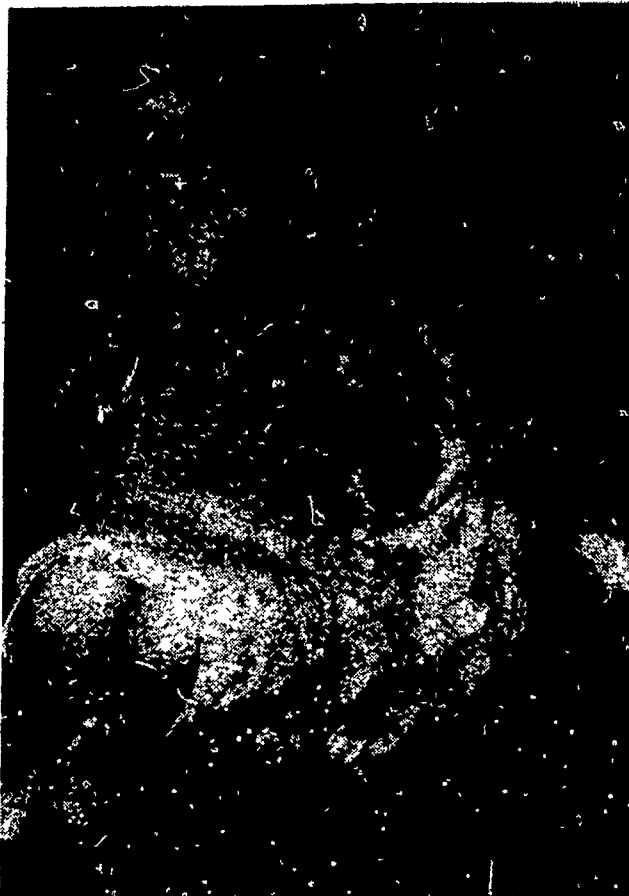
The Seeing Eye, if possible, always tries to get a replacement puppy to the 4-H'er on the day that the dog leaves for its training.

This new program is part of the major expansion of the Seeing Eye, Inc., which is now in its 50th year. More dogs are needed for blind persons, and the Seeing Eye hopes to put out over 300 puppies per year in 4-H homes.

"The most important thing is that the dogs are placed with loving families," Mrs. Cook noted. "The entire family will become involved in the project."

An added dividend, she continued, was that the youngsters also learn to speak on their feet and develop leadership, responsibility, and poise. They have an animal that they can love who returns their love, and throughout the relationship, both mature.

If there is anyone who would be interested in becoming a part of this project, they can contact their 4-H county agent or the Seeing Eye, Inc., Morristown, New Jersey, 07960, phone number 201-539-4425, for more information.



Mrs. Cathy Cook, Gardenville, is not only a consultant for the Seeing Eye for 4-H in eastern Pa., but she also participates actively in the program, raising puppies for use by the foundation.

Service diplomas given

LITITZ — Raymond Rutt and Harold Z. Sensenig of Binkley and Hurst Bros., Inc., here, recently returned from a service training school held in Racine, Wis. They were among the 9-member class who completed technical training courses at the J.I. Case Company training facility.

Rutt received special training on the service of the new 90 Series tractors, while Sensenig was introduced to latest skills in uni-loader hydrostatic drive and

hydraulic systems and rebuild diagnostic procedures.

The training sessions are conducted by professional instructors of the Case Agriculture Equipment Division. Students, representing Case dealerships throughout North America, receive actual experience in various component trouble-shooting, use of modern tools, diagnostic test equipment and preventive maintenance.

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