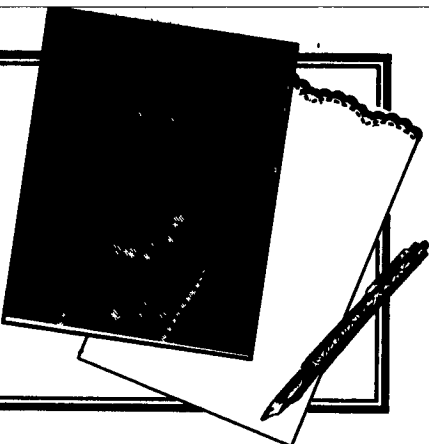


Ida's Notebook

by
Ida Risser



New Year's Eve and another year before us to do our best. There are always lots of decisions to make. Every day brings new problems to be solved or taken care of in some manner. We remember the past but plan for the future.

Recently, I met with a group who discussed giving to charitable organizations. We had some figures that showed what percent of the group's income actually went to promote their programs. Many ranged from only 60 percent up to actually spending 94.7 percent to help particular communities.

The question presented was, "How much should you give?" Many organizations have mailings several times a year and they expect you to respond each time. Some groups do not work with "United Way" but send separate pleas. The consensus seemed to be "give" but keep enough for your-

self. That is a hard decision to make.

Money has always been important to people. Some like to have cash at hand while others save it in a bank account. There are stories told of folks burying gold. In fact, the people who lived on our farm centuries ago were said to have buried some but I doubt the story is true.

Years ago I stopped for gas in Ohio just as the station was closing. In order to give me change, the attendant went into the station and counted along the wall to the seventh cannister. Here he had put the day's money. People store money under rugs, in refrigerators, in cookie jars and in dresser drawers.

Sharing what we have is a decision we must all make. There are so many people in need that the job of helping them seems overwhelming. But, we are told that every little bit helps.



HAPPENINGS

4-H Achievement Night
The Bucks County 4-H Achievement Night was held on Dec. 4 at the Lenape Valley Presbyterian Church in New Britain.

This awards program honors outstanding 4-H members, community supporters, and volunteer 4-H leaders. Recipients of the "I Dare You Awards" were Gina Ciocci and Samantha Cote. Alan Davis of Davis Feed Mills was honored as "Friend of 4-H" for his continuing support of the Bucks County 4-H Program.

Kristen Joyce, Langhorne, and Jaclyn Parry, Newtown, received the Bucks County 4-H Clover Award for outstanding citizenship, leadership, and personal development.

Both are president of their respective 4-H clubs. Joyce, Edgewood 4-H Club, Yardley, has been a project leader for pet care and Horse and Clover. She raises rabbits and sells them as pets. She was captain of the county rabbit knowledge bowl team which placed third in competition.

Parry, Seeing Eye Puppy 4-H Club, raises puppies for the Seeing Eye. She won blue ribbons at the Southeast 4-H Regional Small Animal Show and has given many Seeing Eye Puppy demonstrations, including one at the Devon Horse Show and the N.J. Library for the Blind. She attended a 4-H Leadership Conference at Millersville University and traveled to Japan for an international 4-H exchange program.

Bucks County 4-H presented the Junior Cloverleaf award to youth for leadership and responsibility at the 4-H Achievement recognition event. The youth receiving the award in the 8 to 11 year old category were Linnie Darmofal, Doylestown, Seeing Eye Puppy Club; Kendall Dimmick, Quakertown, Spurs 'N Burrs 4-H Club; Michelle Naudascher, Milford Square, Milford 4-H Club; and Leigh Ward, Riegelsville, Spurs 'N Burrs 4-H club.

Three youth were selected in the 12-13 year old category. They were Jenna Hadley, Springtown, Springtown 4-H Club; Brooke Imhof, Sellersville, Seeing Eye Puppy Club; and Erin Toal, Kintnersville, Round A Bit 4-H Club.

These annual awards highlight 4-H accomplishments and leadership skill development in local communities. The 4-H Club program is available to youth age 8 to 19 years. For details, call Penn State Cooperative Extension, Bucks County, (610) 345-3283.

4-H Project

Each year the Adams County 4-H program involves more than 1,100 youth in the 4-H Embryology School Enrichment Project.

Why is the 4-H embryology project popular? One reason is its simplicity. The only two items needed are a functioning incubator to maintain proper temperatures, humidity levels and ventilation, and fresh fertile eggs. Once the incubator has been warmed up for 24 hours and the eggs placed inside, the project is under way.

Special thanks to Wampler Lon-

gacre—Round Hill for providing the financial support to replace the classroom incubators. Wampler provided funds to purchase fifteen new incubators for the 4-H embryology project which is a vital part to the chick hatching experience.

The 4-H embryology program, because of its structure, is well adapted to the classroom. It helps youth apply basic principles of mathematics, science, English, and health through a "learn-by-doing" experience.

Managing an incubator with two dozen fertile eggs is part of this "hands-on" 4-H project which is conducted in the classroom. The 4-H members turn the eggs regularly and maintain proper temperature, humidity and ventilation in their classroom incubator. 4-H members can see the heart beating and later hear the chick peep from inside the shell. It becomes very exciting, not only for the class involved, but for other students in the school as well.

Teachers report that this project helps to increase motivation of students and teaches responsibility. Each student takes an active part in the project by turning eggs, recording temperature, and helps with overall management of the incubator.

A 4-H promotional program is presented to each classroom at the end of the embryology project. Each student has the opportunity if they wish, to become involved in 4-H in Adams County. Students receive a folder at the conclusion of the 4-H Embryology project and they are provided by 4-H Clubs of Adams County, Inc. The 4-H Embryology project is only one part of Adams County's 4-H youth program.



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