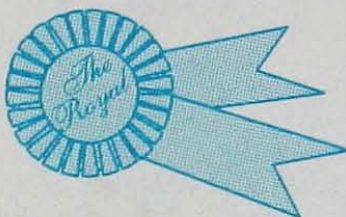


Long-time Exhibitors at the Royal

By *Laurena Ulrick*



In 1997 the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair (RAWF) celebrated its 75th anniversary, and Seagrave Farm celebrated its 35th anniversary as an exhibitor at the Royal. In the late 1920s, Joseph Ulrick established a small herd of registered milking shorthorns in Powassan, just south of North Bay. He registered under the prefix "Seagrave." Seventy years and three generations later, Seagrave Farm's milking shorthorns can be seen at many of the top dairy shows across North America.

The dairy show provides the forum for breeders from everywhere to present their finest to the public and the industry. The RAWF is uncontested as Canada's premier dairy show and has been billed as "the place where the country comes to the city" each November. The contrast is striking as small school children, awed by their first encounter with a real live cow, mix with veteran breeders and exhibitors.

What most observers don't realize is the enormous amount of work involved in exhibiting cattle. Preparation begins a year in advance as cows are bred to have calves and be in just the right stage of lactation and full of bloom for the big day. Long before show day, countless hours are spent halter breaking, clipping and grooming.

The larger shows require that exhibitors enter their animals months in advance. Trucking must be arranged, hotels booked, special supplies purchased and labour hired. Meeting the minimum requirements for the maintenance of bovine life in an urban environment, each 1500 lb. animal will consume 50 gallons of water, 60 lbs. of hay and 15 lbs. of grain daily; all of which must be transported by the exhibitor.

The display will use one bale of straw and one bag of wood shavings per head per day. A minimum of two workers must milk, feed, wash, groom and clean up after these animals for 18 to 20 hours per day.

Eleven times Seagrave animals have won the honour of either Grand or Reserve Grand Champion, and two times they have won the coveted Breeder's Herd Award at the Royal Winter Fair. In 1980, Seagrave's Perfect Nadia was named Grand Champion at the Canadian National Exhibition, RAWF and the World Congress Show in Calgary. In 1992, Seagrave won their first class at the World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wisconsin, and repeated in 1995 winning the American National 2 year Old Futurity with Sancrest Leading Lady. In 1997, Lady was also the first 4 year old and the Total Performance Award winner at the New York State Fair in Syracuse.

Not unlike WI, the opportunity we have had, through our travels to dairy shows across Canada and the United States, to meet people who



Laurena is pictured above with one of Seagrave Farm's Grand Champions.

produce the food we eat has given us an insight into the rural community. Many of Canada's finest men and women live and work outside the urban environment, and our continued work will be in this field.

Laurena and her husband Dan co-own and operate Seagrave Farm with Frank and Carmel Ulrick at RR 1, Powassan, Ontario. Laurena is also an FWIO Board Director for Subdivision 27.

A Celebration of Quilts

Members from Alford & Park Road WI gathered together 125 quilts for a very successful Quilt Show. New and old quilts were displayed at a local retirement home. The hall was a "buzz" of conversation as viewers discussed the quilts and their history. From left to right are Doreen Pate, Quilt Display Convener, Joan Williams, Branch President, and Helen Doctor, retirement home owner.

This Branch also hosted a group of WI members from the Isle of Man. A pot luck supper was organ-



ized for the group, who later visited the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead, the Mohawk Chapel and the Alexander Graham Bell Home.

Submitted by Ivy Johnson, PRO, Alford & Park Road WI, Brant North.

Congratulations

Anniversaries

Sunny Brooke WI, Lambton Centre . . .	15
Eden Grove/Cargill WI, Bruce East	35
Markstay WI, Sudbury	50
Hillsburgh WI, Wellington Centre . . .	75
Seymour West WI, Northumberland East	85
Allenwood WI, Simcoe Centre	90
Camilla WI, Dufferin South	95

Life Memberships

- Baltimore WI, Northumberland West
 - Doris Stephen
- Beamsville WI, Lincoln
 - Swadesh Sachdeva
 - Barbara Temple
 - Patricia Watterworth
- Dublin WI, Halton
 - Anne Dodds
 - Irene Douglas
 - June Hunter
 - Betty McIntyre
 - Gladys Rennich
 - Barbara Wilson
- Nelson WI, Halton
 - Marian Hamilton
 - Frances McCormack
- Reid's Corners WI, Bruce South
 - Evelyn Elliott
 - Margaret Reid

Certificates of Merit

- Seymour West WI
 - Ruby McColloch