

Lowville area man is Farmer of the Year

Richard Sovereign, 1983 Halton Farmer of the Year, exemplifies the high standard of farming in Halton says the Halton Federation of Agriculture. While the business of agriculture is, in itself, immensely demanding in terms of time and energy, Sovereign is nevertheless involved in both farm organizations and his community.

Sovereign is a man who returns as much to the land as he takes out. He has been very active over the past number of years in the Halton Soil and Crop Improvement Association. He has served as Vice President and President of the HSCIA and has participated in several erosion control and field demonstration projects. As a member of the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association, he is a director representing the counties of Halton, York and Peel. He has been a member of the Soil Conservation Committee, the Fertilizer Analysis Committee, and the Crop Insurance Committee.

In addition to his work in soil and crop improvement Sovereign is actively involved in the Halton Region Federation of Agriculture and is a member of the Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee.

As if the work Sovereign contributes to agriculture wasn't enough, he is also very active in other activities within the community. Sovereign is Captain of the Vol-

unteer Fire Department at Kilbride, is an active member of several committees of Lowville United Church, and is a member of the North Burlington Ratepayers' Association.

The Sovereign farm is located on the Guelph Line just north of Lowville. In addition to his own 126 acres, Richard leases another 1050 acres. His farming activities are centered around the production of cash crops corn and grains.

In addition to the production of cash crops Sovereign has a very large grain storage and drying plant which he uses for his own crops as well as custom grain drying, storage and transport for other farmers in the area.

Sovereign is a long-time resident of Halton county, born and raised on a farm on Plains Road in Burlington. He began farming on his own in 1958 and from 1958 until 1963 he did custom harvesting. In 1963 he purchased his farm at Lowville.

His son Tom, age 13, takes an active role in helping his father around the farm. Sovereign stresses the importance of his family in the operation of his farm. While his wife Helen and daughter Beth are not necessarily out driving equipment on the farm, they're there when you need them... especially for moral support."



Richard Sovereign has been named Halton Farmer of the Year. Jim Reid, president of the Halton Federation of Agriculture presents Sovereign with a plaque and wife Helen with roses.

Dairy breeds

New style NIP sets

The Joint Dairy Breeds Committee has announced that new style formsets for the National Identification Program (NIP) will be available for sale commencing December 13 in lots of ten for \$40. Breeders may order them directly from the Joint Dairy Breeds Committee, P O Box 610, Brantford, Ontario, N1T 5R4.

Beginning January 1, 1984, to February 15, 1984, an exchange of one new formset for one old formset will be offered. From February 16, 1984, to April 30, 1984, two old formsets may be exchanged for one new formset. The breed office will discontinue processing old formsets on June 30, 1984.

NIP applications should be forwarded through the milk recording system to the breed office, at least weekly. The objective is to provide the herd owner with the NIP certificate within one month or at the next test date.

For the Holstein breed a new distinctive NIP certificate will be issued in 1984, the same size as a registration certificate, 21 cm x 27.5 cm (8 1/4 in. x 11 in.).

Winners at Bridge Club

Bill Dinan and Art Kwei were the winners at Georgetown Duplicate Bridge Club this week, with Kay Campbell and Gloria Coats second, and Enid Ashworth and Cam Sinclair third.

In the east-west section Brian Ayer and Peter Gostovic tied with Fred Allen and Gus Flesch for first place and Gundy Kistemaker and Mike Lorusso, and Peter Gifford and Roy Turton tied for second spot.

Royal answer soon

Halton Region Conservation Authority officials expect to know within the next couple of weeks if Queen Elizabeth II will officially open Crawford Lake Interpretative Centre next summer.

The Halton Region Conservation Foundation has invited Her Majesty to officially open the new nature centre, when she visits Ontario to celebrate the province's bicentennial.

Gary Hutton, spokesman for the Foundation, said he expects a definite answer from the protocol office in two weeks.

He added he has heard the Queen has been invited to visit the Ontario Agricultural Museum, but that it also has yet to be confirmed.

The Crawford Lake nature centre will specialize in such subjects as botany, biology, Indian culture and history, Crawford Lake and the Niagara Escarpment.

The Foundation has raised about \$300,000 of the \$700,000 needed to rebuild the pre-European Indian village which once stood beside Crawford Lake and to create the nature centre adjacent to the village.



Dr. Richard Kunica of the Halton Federation of Agriculture presents David Lasby, RR 2 Rockwood with a \$300 scholarship. Lasby is attending the Ontario Agriculture College in Guelph.



David Wilson, RR 2 Norval, received a \$300 scholarship from Dr. Richard Kunica of the Halton Federation of Agriculture. Wilson is a student at the Ontario Agricultural College in Guelph.

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