

Agriculture



Halton's 4-H club repeated its success at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair as it was named the premier club at the Scotiabank Hays Classic competition Monday. Members of the winning club were, back left, Brett Cormier, Todd Livock, Lee-Anne Bustard, and in the front, Kelly Stewart, left, Ron Bird and Connie Bennett.

Halton 4-H Club big winners again

By ROB SAVAGE
Toronto Bureau
Thomson News Service

TORONTO - They've done it again.

The Halton 4-H club was among the big winners at the Scotiabank Hays Classic cattle showing competition at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair.

Halton was named the premier club with the highest overall points in the competition. Club member Kelly Stewart of Milton was once again an individual winner with the grand champion calf.

"I had a great calf," Stewart said following the competition.

Both the Halton Club and Stewart had similar success at the event last year. Other

members of this year's winning Halton club were Brett Cormier, Todd Livock, Lee-Anne Bustard, Ron Bird and Connie Bennett.

The Scotiabank Hays Classic has young 4-H members showing cows that the young people have been caring for. There were 272 young people from across Canada competing this year.

The event was held Sunday and Monday at Exhibition Place in Toronto.

Bustard, 14, said the group didn't do anything unique to win the top spot. However, she said the display area Halton presented was neat and tidy and she suspected that impressed the judges.

"We kept up our display."

Bennett, 16, of Burlington, said this was her first year at the

Scotiabank Hays Classic. Co-operation appeared to be the key to Halton's success, she said.

"All pulling together, working hard, and all supporting each other," she said. "Things came together."

She said it had been a good introduction to the national competition.

"It was fantastic. It was fun. I love it."

Other winners at the event included Peterborough's Laurie Sage, 22, who was named grand champion showman. Sage has been showing cows for a number of years and said training a calf to walk at the right pace is part of the key to success.

"It's just practice," she said in an interview. "And a lot of luck."

Owen Sound site of elite program

The 30 participants in Class 3 of the Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program were in Owen Sound October 29-31 to study "Strategic Issue Management." The case study used was "Land Use in Grey County," a very controversial and complex problem.

On October 29, Alex Leith, Rural Organization Specialist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, presented an overview of Grey County. Director of Planning and Economic Development, Janice MacDonald, explained the current Official Plan for the county. They provided a good base of information for a panel discussion featuring four citizens involved in the many sides of this issue - George McLean, wildlife artist; Bill Murdock, MPP, Grey; Michael Valpy, Globe and Mail columnist; Charlie Watson Sr., farmer and developer.

Mike Atkins, AALP participant

from Grey County organized a tour of the Clarksburg-Thornbury apple growing area, including visits to Golden Triangle Apple Packers and Golden Town Apple Products. The tour concluded with a dinner hosted by the Southern Georgian Bay District Fruit Growers.

The seminar provided an opportunity to AALP participants to hone their skills by presenting their views on an issue that they have been researching over the past year - thirty wide ranging and interesting topics. Dinner guests from the local area provided more valued input into many current interests in Grey County. Members of the group entertained their guests with a slide show introducing the issues encountered on the AALP U.S. Mid-West and Western Canada July Study Tour.

Norm Helm, public relations consultant and moderator for the issue presentations, provided

practical media experience to several members of the group on October 31. Helm staged in-depth issue on camera interviews forcing participants to react quickly under pressure.

On Sunday, prior to the scheduled three-day seminar, participants visited the Bruce Nuclear Power Development and were hosted by leaders from Bruce and Grey Counties at a dinner in Chesley.

As they drove home to family and the ghosts and goblins of Halloween AALP members from across the province reflected on the complexities of the many issues discussed. Similar concerns affect each one in their own local area.

For more information about the Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program please contact Patricia Mighton, Executive Director, Box 1030, Guelph, Ontario N1H 6N1 (Telephone: 519-767-3503).

Producers a no-show

TORONTO - Maple syrup producers will not be paying fees on maple syrup containers.

In a note conducted recently by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food on whether producers favored establishing fees on syrup containers, only 20 per cent of eligible voters cast ballots.

Recognizing that this was not a representative sample of Ontario's maple syrup producers, the association and the ministry concluded that there would be no

further action on the proposal.

Of the 1,950 maple syrup producers who received ballots, 378 voted on the Ontario Maple Syrup Producers Association proposal to establish a fee on syrup containers.

Fifty-seven per cent of those who voted were in favor of the fee, which would have been used to provide funds for research, education and advertising for the maple syrup industry and to finance the association.



What's Cooking at Steak Express? Saturday is Sample Day.

SHRIMP RING
Thaw & Eat
\$11.99
Stock up for Christmas

BOXED MEATS
FROZEN FOOD

GEORGETOWN
at DeWitt & Guelph St.
877-0721

OPEN SUNDAY

- Available Soon -

Christmas CAROL BOOK

ORDER YOURS NOW! 877-2201



Contains the words to all of your Christmas favourites. Great for use in classroom, church groups or for Christmas parties, etc. . . Call before December 1st and reserve your extra copies . . . with compliments of the season from

the HERALD
Home Newspaper of Halton Hills - Established 1866