



Rodgers Gardham, the Immediate Past President of the Markham and East York Agricultural Society, was presented with a bronze medallion, Saturday, by Alma Walker, the President in 1978. This and other presentations were made at the Fair Board's annual awards banquet, Oct. 21.

—Jim Thomas.

Markham band grows rapidly

MARKHAM — "Super fantastic" is the way Gene West of Gladiator Road describes Markham's Concert Band.

Organized only four months ago, the membership has already grown to fifty-six, ranging in age from twelve to eighty.

The director is David Craig of West Hill. Mrs. West is the secretary.

The group's already made two public appearances, first at the Museum's Pioneer Festival and later at Markham Fair.

Practices are held every Monday evening from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., in the upper auditorium of the Markham Arena. The turnout averages about 34 each night.

A side benefit is the organization of a Dixieland Jazz Band and later, a Jr. Band, Mrs. West explained. They've already been contacted to play on the Kiwanis Club float in the Dec. 2 Santa Claus Parade.

The members' names follow: Norman Bell, Shelley Closson, Gordon Hagerman, Stratton Holland, Andrea Kidd, Gill Kidd, John Van Poecke, Mona Rasi, George Roche, Pam Simpson, Stephen Tokar, Joanne Garvie, Nina Humphries, George Long, Reg Rowe, Bill Robinson, Wally West, Roger Archer, Warren Busch, Harold Humphrey, Elson Kerr, Tom Lynch, Don Brumby, E.J. Bunting, Hugh Holland, Paul Krug, Don Messerve, Wally

Osbaldeston, Wolfgang Schulz, Raymond Aldridge, George Boyce, F.J. Dimma, Barbara McLean, Syd Closson, Nick Davis, Ruth Kerr, Jason Nolan, Al Vettes, Nick Viggiani, Rich Whittaker, Ted Andrae, Lesley Barr, Erwin Schack, Alan Shaddock, Jill Shrimpton, John Webster, Jeff Davis, Gordon Harsell, Khalman McMahon, Wendy Stuart, Fred White, Cliff Denny, Stewart Hood, Jennifer Ker-Hornell, David Moulds and Wanda Smith.

Champion Hereford

DICKSON'S HILL — The Warnock Hereford Farm at Dickson's Hill, is noted for its quality beef.

This recognition gained ever greater prominence, Saturday, when a 19 month old heifer was judged Grand Champion Female at a Premier Show and Sale sponsored by the Ontario Hereford Club. There were 29 entries in the class.

Jarvis Hereford Farms Limited, of Jarvis, Ont., purchased the animal for \$1,600. They plan to show it at the Royal Winter Fair next month.

Gravel becomes an election issue

UXBRIDGE — Candidates may not resort to throwing stones in the weeks ahead but gravel is obviously an issue in Uxbridge Township's municipal election.

Only in Wards 1 and 5 are there acclamations. The other five positions, including the office of Mayor, are up for grabs.

Moving up to take on Gord Davie for Council's top post is regional councillor Gary

Herrema, Uxbridge, R.R.2. Contesting the regional vacancy are Carl Puterbaugh, R.R.3, Uxbridge and Mustyn McKnight, Uxbridge, R.R.2.

Ward 2 has the incumbent, Mac Meyers of R.R.1. Zephyr in a real battle with John Ricketts, Uxbridge, R.R.4; Keith Scott, Stouffville, R.R.3 and Clifford Sweet of Zephyr.

In Ward 3 it's Ron Johnson, Uxbridge, R.R. 1 against councillor Norm Lyons and in Ward 4, incumbent Sandy Ewen is opposed by Ron Hunter of Quaker Hill.

Already acclaimed are John Paxton (Ward 1), Goodwood and Alan Wells (Ward 5), Uxbridge, R.R.3.

In announcing his decision to go for the mayor's job, Gary Herrema acknowledges the fact that he'll face opposition on his pro-gravel pit stand. Still, he says his position remains basically the same, with one exception. He feels the municipality and not the province should legislate controls with the township reaping some financial return.

"Pickering receives money for allowing garbage in. We should be paid for letting gravel go out," he stated.



GARY HERREMA

Board of Education supports use of corporal punishment

YORK REGION — The York County Board of Education still supports the use of corporal punishment in the disciplining of students. A motion by Craig Cribar, trustee for Newmarket, to exclude the practice from a list of alternatives in the Board's proposed policy statement on discipline, was defeated, Monday night.

Though the majority of trustees still favor retention of the strap, the Board again postponed final approval of their draft. It has been referred to

Board of Education staff for definition of what corporal punishment is, and when it should be used.

The Board members heard a joint presentation by Anita Waite of Stouffville and Skip Perryman of Unionville. Both women have taken courses in effective parenting and family life counselling; are mothers; and oppose the Board's use of corporal punishment.

Mrs. Waite called it "a lazy and cowardly way to deal with children." She noted there were

other successfully proven methods. The damage to a child could be tremendous, Mrs. Perryman added.

Most of the trustees, however, felt the system wasn't ready for the removal of the strap. It's presence is a successful "deterrent" for children who don't understand how far they can go, according to trustee Margaret Coburn.

To that statement trustee Bob McMonagle replied the Board might just as well consider putting "a scaffold in the front yard of every school."

Markham Fair '78

President accorded standing ovation

MARKHAM — "Four days—a million memories," was the way president Alma Walker summed up her personal feelings towards this year's Markham Fair, "a highlight of my life," she said.

She was addressing the annual awards banquet, renamed the President's Ball, Saturday night. Mrs Walker was accorded a standing ovation.

"Last January, when I accepted the position, I wondered what I was getting myself into," she admitted, adding quickly that she had never enjoyed anything more. She called it "a marvellous 1978".

During the evening, presentations were made to the following: Rodgers Gardham, a past-president's medallion; Gerald Mann, an agricultural plaque; Ab Boake, the Jack Walker Memorial Trophy for poultry; Carrie Van Poeke, Craft Section Display Award and Mrs Roy Lewis, the Bradford Fertilizer Co. Award.

Barbara Hoover presented her parents, Bob and Kay Thompson with the "Golden Hammer Award" on behalf of the Grounds Committee; also a paper mache bust to Mrs Walker, adorned in her favorite Markham Fair hat, covered with ribbons.

Fair photographer, Bryan

Armstrong concluded the program with a showing of colored slides taken by himself

and Debbie Watson. The fair site is the former Watson family farm.

Fairgrounds envied

MARKHAM — "There are 230 fairs in Ontario. You people are the envy of them all," Ed Starr, Secretary of Ontario's Agricultural Societies told an awards banquet audience at Markham fairgrounds, Saturday night.

The speaker described the site acquisition "a bold step", one that had stirred up interest among other Boards across the province. "Many

are watching," he said, "and considering the same thing".

Alan Wall, Agriculture representative for York Region said the Fair's new facilities would insure a top-notch farm show for years to come, equal to anything in Ontario including the C.N.E. and the Royal. "We all had visions of what it would be like to operate in a well laid-out, modern set-up. This year, we made it".

Society pays tribute

MARKHAM — As has been the practice at previous post-Fair gatherings of the Markham and East York Agricultural Society, respects were paid Saturday to three members who passed away during the year 1977-78.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Dalton Rumney, R.R.2, Gormley; Olive Shadlock, R.R.1, Milliken and Howard Cosburn, R.R.2, Markham.

"Their contributions," said Immediate Past President Rodgers Gardham, "have been not only an immense value to this Society and Markham Fair, but also an example to us all".

Of Dalt Rumney, Mr. Gardham mentioned specifically his interest in the heavy horse division of the Fair. He noted that even during a period of failing health, he always attended official

gatherings of the Society. He was the President in 1963. "Dalt was either greeting his friends and acquaintances with a smile and a handshake or was surrounded by folks talking about times past and present," he said.

Rodgers Gardham referred to Olive Shadlock's work with the young people at the Fair, first through the Jr. Farmers and later the Eighteen and

Under Class. "The quality and devotion of Olive's many years of service are remembered and appreciated by this Society," he said.

The past-president described Howard Cosburn as "a very special person". His involvement with the Society spanned 33 years. He was president in 1965. "We remember his conviction, his dedication and his courage," he concluded.

Maligned gravel pit operator rehabilitates Uxbridge sites

UXBRIDGE TWP. — All the newspaper publicity provided the anti-gravel pit faction in Uxbridge Twp., is beginning to get to one of the much-maligned aggregate operators, John B. Regan. And while Mr. Regan is the first to admit some operators haven't been "up to scratch", he dislikes being tarred with the same brush.

John Regan finds himself in the centre of controversy related to a re-zoning application that, if approved, would give him access to a 400 acre gravel site, west of the 7th concession, south of Hwy. 1A. The property, heavily treed, was owned by J.W. Walker, R.R.1, Claremont.

Mr. Regan claims there's

between twenty-five and thirty million tons of good gravel in this land, "a freak of nature" he calls it. The location, he points out, is such that "you'd have to fly over it to see it", once the operation is started. The site will be screened, he says, with a 150 foot buffer next to the road.

Mining of this gravel will be phased over a period of thirty years, he says, with rehabilitation taking place continually. "We've no intentions of doing the 400 acres all at once. That would be economic suicide," he explained.

John Regan prides himself in past rehabilitation programs and points to the "Nesbitt Pit" on the Brock Road as an example. There, the excavation

has been levelled out and reseeded. The same is planned for the "Steiner Pit", farther south. "This is no death-bed repentance," he said. Rehabilitation has been a policy of his company since he first went into business back in 1946, he stresses. The Metro Toronto Zoo, he points out, was once one of his pits.

Contrary to common belief, Uxbridge Twp. is not "rich" in gravel. In fact, he says, good material is fast coming to an end. That is why companies are trucking stone into the municipality so it can be mixed with sand at Uxbridge sites. He claims he tested some 7,000 acres before coming upon the "find" at the Walker farm.

The farther firms must go to get good gravel, the more it costs, due to haulage expense, Mr. Regan states. "This new site will prove a benefit to not only the taxpayers of Uxbridge, but to the Province of Ontario," he said.

The agreement between himself and the Township, is extremely "tight", he says, covering thirteen pages. Should he fail to comply with its regulations, the Council can cancel it, he points out.

With respect to all the commotion the proposed pit-opening has caused, John Regan claims there are two sides to every story, adding, "I'm sick and tired of being pushed around".



Markham Fire Department moves into new headquarters

Markham Fire Chief Myrl Smith (right) and Control Officer Steve Thornhill, explain the Department's modern dispatching unit during the official opening of the Town's new fire station at Unionville, Saturday. During the celebrations, the brigade was able

to prove its efficiency first-hand. Twice, within a few hours, the aerial ladder truck responded to fire calls, with ceremonial balloons still attached.

—Ed Schroeter.