

Holstein winners

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and Harry's loyal customers are urging him to go ahead and buy that new cattle truck he dreams about from time to time.

Firth also entered the dairy industry in 1929, "the year everything went", as he vividly puts it. Money was tight; and the Firth's milked four times a day to make ends meet, while lumbering with horses in between milkings to scratch together a couple more dollars toward farm bills.

The family's first registered Holsteins, a cow and two heifers, came into Firth's father's herd in 1913.

"One of those old cows kept producing until she finally died at age 18," he remembers. "In fact, the association wouldn't register her last calf, they wouldn't believe a cow that old could still have a calf."

In 1934, Firth purchased his Firthholm Farms in Crawford County. He still raises the heifers on the 340-acre operation, but has

turned the dairying over to his son and grandson.

A former state director and executive committeeman for the Holstein association, Firth is lauded for his untiring efforts on behalf of dairy youth. Friends and fans are quick to share tales of how Harry would round up cattle and truck them several hours to Harrisburg for youth dairy shows.

Several years ago, Firth was honored at another Holstein convention, hosted in his Northwest region, by appreciative breeders who gifted him with a toy truck. Harry's wife, Lois, says that the truck is still cherished and a favorite toy for some of their 17 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren who visit.

Senior distinguished junior members, Debra Stump and Alan Hostetter, were also recognized at the awards breakfast with plaques presented by state Holstein president John Cope.

Debra is 20 and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Stump, Bern-

ville, Berks County. She has an impressive herd of 21 registered Holsteins, 18 of them her own breeding.

Since her graduation from Tulpehocken High School, Debra has taken over as herdsman at the family's Stumpland Farm. She does the milking chores, with some assistance from her younger sister, and handles the breeding and health care of the animals.

Adept at the technological art of artificial insemination, Debra uses classification and AAA coding to select sires for herd mating program. She also maintains all the herd records, orders pedigrees yearly and handles the herd advertising, including showing the cattle at local and statewide shows.

Winner of the numerous showing and fitting awards, Debra is a leader in 4-H dairy work and served as chairman of the Junior Holstein Association's fund-raising calf drawing at the Pocono convention.

Alan Hostetter, 20-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Hostetter, is young stock specialist at the family's Dale-Pride Holsteins, Annville R2. That job entails the management and raising of almost 100 heifer calves yearly. He also helps manage the 100-head dairy herd feeding program.

A devoted showing participant, Alan has exhibited some of his 13

head-nine of them he bred himself - at numerous 4-H, FFA and open class shows. Two of his favorite homebreds are twin daughters of Paclamar Bootmaker, with three-year projected milk records of 21,000 and 22,000 pounds.

A graduate of Annville-Cleona High School, Alan was a member of the FFA chapter and treasurer in his senior year. He earned his Keystone Farmer degree and was named the Eastern region star farmer in 1978. During the next few months, Alan will apply for his American farmer degree.

Other senior finalists in the distinguished junior member contest were M. Jane Bombgardner, Annville R3, Lisa Beth Cooper, Slippery Rock R1, Karen R. Sattazahn, Womelsdorf, RD, and Donald Stoltz, Morgantown R1.

Six junior division distinguished Holstein youth were also named and recognized at the breakfast program. They are Debbie Cashell, Franklin County, Kim Kreibel, Perry County, Connie Ohlinger, and Claude Miller, Berks County, Brad Ludwig, Warren County, and John Stamy III, Cumberland County.

One special surprise presentation went to Don and Gerry Seipt, Keystone Farms, Easton R4.

Several years ago, the Seipts sold a young registered Holstein bull, Keystone Ivan Silver, to

the Netherlands. Recently, Silver won the Preferred Award, the first Holstein-Friesian sire ever to win this highest possible honor given to a dairy sire in Holland.

In honor of their accomplishment in the breeding of Silver, the Association presented the Seipts with an enlarged, framed photograph of the Seipt family as they loaded the young bull on the truck for shipment.

Don Seipt is a past state Holstein president and a national director of the Holstein-Friesian Association of America.

Five Holstein members were honored for having solicited 10 or more new members in 1980. They are Lazo Mozes, Mercer County, 13 members, Kenneth Nixon, Fayette County, 13, D. Lamar Witmer, Lancaster County, 13, Wendell J. Smith, Butler County, 11, and Byron Over, Bedford County, 10.

Holstein group sets 6,000 goal

WHITE HAVEN — A membership goal of 6,000 has been set for 1981, William C. Nichol, executive secretary of the Pennsylvania Holstein Association, said in his annual meeting report last week.

He told the attending Holstein breeders at the Pocono Hershey Resort that present membership stands at 5,703.

Nichol urged that all members review the directory in the Pennsylvania Annual and visit two or three dairymen not included.

It is hoped that the 6,000 figure could be reached by March 19 - National Agriculture Day. The State Board of Directors is planning to recognize member 6000 and the solicitor.

Association involvement in sales was reported at an all-time high of \$6.3 million for 1980.

During the 1980 season, local clubs sponsored 30 shows with more than 3500 animals exhibited.

Premiums will be increased for the Holstein Show at Harrisburg on September 24 and 25. Total Holstein premiums, excluding the state herd class, will be \$14,340.

Nichol told of the planned visit this week of a buying team from Japan. The executive secretary is planning a trip there in April to promote exporting of Pennsylvania Holsteins.

He said that a brochure is being prepared to feature the tops in brood cows with male offspring on the ground or prospects in dam. He invited breeders to submit nominations for the brochure.

Nichol concluded his report at the annual meeting by stressing the importance of agriculture to the overall economic health of the country.



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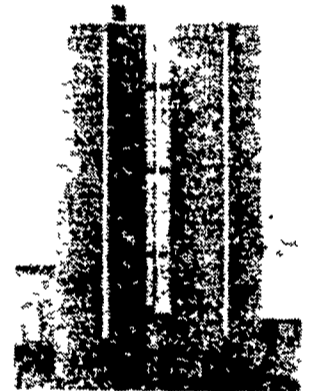


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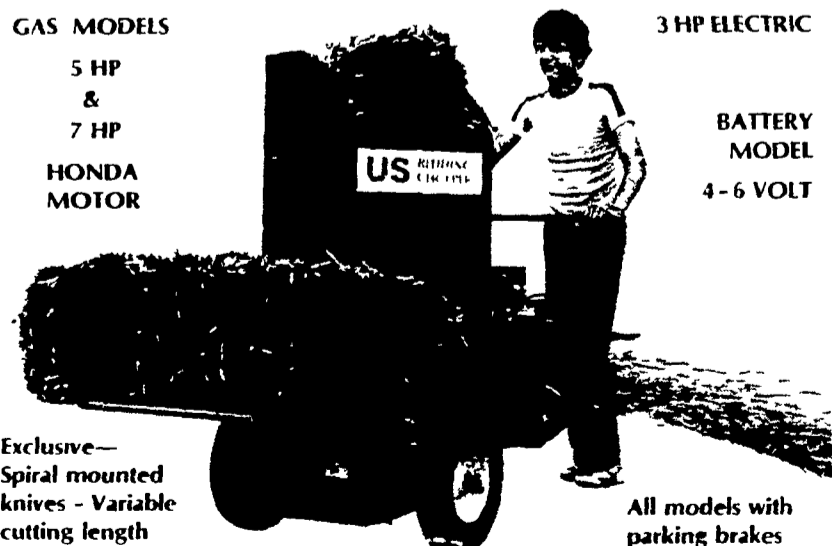
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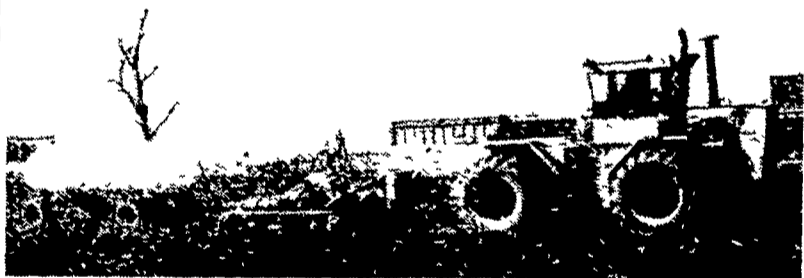
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