

Hill, Skinner, King receive Maryland Holstein plaudits

BY JOYCE BUPP
Staff Correspondent

TIMONIUM, Md. — Maryland State Fair's gigantic Cow Palace provides a perfect setting for the impressive showing of registered Holsteins that turns out for this popular Labor Day competition.

The Maryland Holstein Association has chosen this setting, colorfully decorated with flags and colors representing the state's 23 counties, in which to

annually honor individuals whose contributions have enhanced the registered Holstein breed and the dairy industry. Both junior and senior breeder awards, and a distinguished service recognition, are presented in this annual ceremony.

William H. "Buddy" Hill, Jr., of Crewe, Va., is this year's Maryland Holstein Association Distinguished Service Winner.

Hill, currently a regional

National Holstein consultant in the Southeast, began his work in the dairy industry at the tender age of seven, when he began helping milk his family's herd of cows. He was a DHIA tester while in high school, and highlights of his 4-H career include winning the Maryland all-breed fitting and showing competition in 1945, and being part of the state's 1946 judging team which won the national contest.

In 1949, he assumed management of H.B. Millhauser's Logwood Farm, near Reisterstown, building the herd to a national reputation both for production and showing accomplishments. Logwood entries won the Maryland Fair's grand champion honors a total of nine times, more than any other exhibitor thus far.

Their aged cow, Prosperity Hill Sesame Fobes, was grand champion of the 1955 International Dairy Show in Chicago, and for many years her head photo was used as the "ideal cow head" to represent the Holstein industry.

Hill was an early promoter of the idea of forming a Maryland state herd for exhibiting at regional and national shows. He was also part of an innovative 1950's group known as the Classic Five, a group of breeders that worked together in bull purchases and herd management improvement.

Along with his wife, Charlotte, and their sons Bill and Bob, Hill



The Maryland Holstein Assoc. honored William "Buddy" Hill Jr. (left) with the Distinguished Service Award for 1985. With Hill from left are his wife, Charlotte; Jimmy Hill, who presented the award as president of the Maryland Association; Bill, Beth, and Buddy Hill.

has actively served the Holstein industry in a variety of ways. While he was the state Holstein president in 1965, Buddy and Charlotte began their sponsorship of a Maryland Young Breeders award, presented annually for 20 years to an outstanding Holstein breeder under age 36.

Winner of that award this year is the Donald Skinner family, who farm 350 acres of Maryland's Eastern Shore near Centerville.

Skinner purchased his first animals in 1961, for 4-H project use. After graduating from high school in 1968, he began farming with his father.

Today, the herd of 70 registered homebreds averages 18,896 milk and 705 fat, with a classification BAA of 104.3 on 60 head. In 1984, Donald and Suzanne received the Progressive Breeder Award.

(Turn to Page A22)



The Donald Skinner family was named Junior Holstein Breeders of the Year during ceremonies at the Maryland State Fair. From left are Donald Jr., Dawn, Amanda, Suzanne and Donald Skinner, with trophy sponsors Buddy and Charlotte Hill.


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