



Inducted: 2001

Bill Grieve, a dedicated agriculturist, is recognized for his contributions to the breeding and promotion of the Canadian Holstein. Bill was the founding President of the Ontario Holstein Branch and a Past President of the Canadian Holstein Association. For many years “Newlands”, a Master Breeder herd, has been recognized worldwide as a source of quality cattle.

Beginning as a representative for the Middlesex Junior Farmers, Bill continues to be actively involved with the Western Fair Association and served as its President from 1994 - 1996. His election as Warden of Middlesex County in 1975 and the leadership he has provided to many other organizations truly indicates his commitment to the Canadian Agri-Food Industry.

WILLIAM RICHARD GRIEVE

1931-

In 1819 the Grieve family took up residence on 100 acres of Crown land in the Pond Mills area of Westminster Township. Bill was born the 5th generation to live on the family farm. His early education was at Pond Mills Public School followed by three years of high school in London. Eight years in 4-H dairy and crop clubs along with short courses at Guelph supplemented his formal education. 4-H had led into Junior Farmers and in 1955 Bill was President of the Middlesex County Junior Farmers.

In 1953 Bill married Yvonne (Mitchell). They have two children, Rick and Catherine.

The family farm that Bill came to know as a boy was mainly a dairy farm with a Holstein herd, the milk being taken daily to London’s Silverwoods Dairies by wagon, sleigh or truck. In 1938 Bill’s father, John, first began using the “Newlands” prefix for their purebred dairy herd. During his lifetime the foundation of one of the country’s outstanding Holstein herds was developed. As Bill grew up to help his father so too did the farm and dairy herd grow with more land being purchased to accommodate this growth. But growth also occurred with the city and in 1958 Newlands farm moved to North Dorchester township. The Westminster lands became part of the Westminster park subdivision and where the original Grieve log cabin had been built is now the site of Sir Wilfrid Laurier Secondary School.

The Newlands herd, first under John, then Bill and now his son Rick continues to be one of the outstanding herds. The longevity and breeding excellence of the herd is reflected in the three Master Breeder awards won by this herd over its lifetime – one for each generation. Today Newlands Farm Ltd., a family corporation, is a dairy and cash crop farm including canning crops and export of registered Holsteins and embryos around the world.

Growth in the farm and dairy herd led Bill to involvement in related organizations. In 1963 he was president of the Middlesex Soil and Crop Improvement Association. It was at that time that an agreement between Western Fair and Soils and Crops to jointly sponsor the Farm Show was set up. Bill has not missed a Farm Show since its beginning.

In 1968 he began as a director of Holstein Canada. In 1981 Bill was the founding president of the Ontario Holstein Association and in 1984, its centennial year, president of Holstein Canada.

From 1985-1991 Bill was a provincial appointee to the Ontario Agricultural Research Institute and its chair in 1991.

Bill likes to think that he has been a member and director of the Western Fair Association since time began, or at least his Junior Farmer days but actually his Grandfather was on the board before him. During his tenure as president from 1994-1996 the IMAX opened and new entrances were constructed along with additions to the Progress Building.

The benefits of the leadership offered by Bill's ability have not been limited to agriculture alone. In the local community of North Dorchester Bill has been a school trustee, a councilor, County warden, Chairman of the Kettle Creek Conservation Authority and a long-term committee member of the local United Church.

Bill Grieve; -as an agriculturist, is recognized for his dedication to the breeding and promotion of the Canadian Holstein
 -as a member of the Western Fair Association, a long term supporter of the educational value the agricultural programming can offer
 -as a resident of his community, a good friend and neighbour willing to share his time and abilities for the good of all

Today we honour this dedication and commitment to community and agriculture at all levels by inducting WILLIAM RICHARD GRIEVE into the Middlesex County Agricultural Hall of Fame.