



Crestomere Holsteins was established in 1936 by Ralph & Edith Simanton. Today the family farm is run by Everett & Marylee Simanton along with their son Lee & his wife Lisa; they have two toddlers, Easton & Ava. In 2018, the farm saw a new barn build and herd expansion to 100 milking cows in which they are fed and milked robotically, a big change from the 67 cow tie-stall.

Since the late 1970's we have been frequent hosts to young temporary foreign work through Agriventure, CAEP, IRE, and others. We have really enjoyed having young people from all over the world live with us from, anywhere from 4 months to a year, join our family, and work with our herd. From Australia, New Zealand, England, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Germany, Denmark, Luxembourg, Ireland, Brazil, Ukraine, Argentina, France and Japan. On top of the "trainee" we also have one other part time employee and occasional casual employees.

Ev & Marylee were 2022 Marj Atkins award winners for their past involvement in shows, WCC, 4H, and Alberta Branch. We were invited to the live broadcast announcement of the Master Breeders for both 2022 & 2023 for being top 10 in our category. In the top 10 - 5 times in the last 10 years



2022 Marj Atkins Award winners



Acme Star Lily Grand Royal & WDE 1998

We can't talk about the success our herd has had without mentioning Acme Star Lily EX94-2E 8\*(0/40). Ev & Marylee acquired her as a baby calf from the prestigious Acme herd and she went on to being named HI All-Time World Champion 1998, 3x Grand Champion of the Royal, and WDE Grand Champion in 1998. Then came Crasdale Dundee Victory EX91-3E 12\*(9/51) with her most notable daughter Crestomere Lou Victoria EX94-2E 5\*(12/14). This family has made up a large portion of our herd. Crasdale Dundee Tia EX91-2E 4\*(0/20) was another cow family that was very influential in our herd in the past.

Today we have some new rising stars that we are excited to see their families continue.

Crestomere Sidekick Valkyrie, Daughter of Lou Victoria, owned with Stanhope/Wedgwood and Mosnang, was named 2022 Honourable Mention All-Canadian Jr 3 Yr Old at the start of this year. Another impactful daughter of Lou Victoria, Crestomere Most Valuable EX93 is coming to the end of her third lactation as a 5 year old. Crestomere Solomon Cookie EX94-3E is in her 5th

lactation as a 6 year old. Crestomere G D Lillie EX94-2E is just fresh in her 6th lactation. Crestomere Doorman Callie EX92 is 10th generation classified excellent due to calve again this spring! Ms Apples Arusha EX92-3E 3\*(0/16), out of the famous KHW Regiment Apple-Red EX96-4E DOM 41\* (0/205), is owned in partnership with all 3 of Ev & Marylee's children; Crestomere Holsteins (Lee), Charlyn Farms (Sandy Kingdon), and Lovholm Holsteins (Jess Lovich). She is currently on a flush program and her daughters and granddaughters have already made quite the impression!



Crasdale Dundee Victory  
EX-91-3E 12\*



Crestomere Lou Victoria EX-94-2E 5\*  
Daughter of Victory



Crestomere Sidekick Valkyrie VG-89-3YR  
Daughter of Victoria

In 2022, we were the consigner of the Alberta Dairy Congress Sale where 36 head of Crestomere bred heifers and cows were sold to many great herds in the west! Then again in 2023, this time we co-consigned alongside Lucky Hill Dairy and Hamming Holsteins for the Alberta Dairy Congress Sale where 19 head of Crestomere bred heifers and cows were sold. We want to thank everyone that was a part of making both of those sales a success, and we wish the new owners the best of luck with these animals!

2023 was a great year for our home bred cattle. With 11 VG 2 Yr Olds, 9 New Excellent Home bred Cows, 12 ME this year, 1-100,000 kg award, 1-120,000 kg award, and 2 Superior Production Awards. The current makeup of our herd is 17ME- 15EX - 55 VG - 34 GP - 1G.

2023 saw great success for Crestomere Holsteins in the show side of things too! We were very pleased with how our group of cows came out for two shows this year and we couldn't have done it without the help of our show crews! We really enjoy being able to show off animals that we are so proud of and also for the time to be together with other dairy enthusiasts, friends, and family. Now it has become even more fun with having our littles in the peewee classes. Lee is an official judge and judged the Jr Show at the Westerner Dairy Showcase in 2023.

#### Show accomplishments 2023

- Alberta Dairy Congress — Rimbey
- 3rd Summer Yearling - Crestomere Perennial Violet
- 3rd Summer 2 Yr - Arrow Lynx
- 2nd Winter 2 Yr - Aligator Bongo
- 3rd 5 Yr Old - Most Valuable - Best Bred & Owned
- 2nd Mature - GD Lillie - Best Bred & Owned
- B&W Premier Breeder

#### Westerner Dairy Showcase

- 3rd summer calf/1st R&W - Warrior Lovesong
- 5th Spring Heifer - Conway Kara
- 5th Milking Yearling - Fuel Leak
- 2nd Spring 2 Yr - Cellular Twinkle

## BREEDER OF THE YEAR- Central Alberta Holstein Club- CAHC – Crestomere Holsteins – The Simanton

- 3rd 5 Yr Old - Most Valuable - Best Bred & Owned
- 3rd Mature - Solomon Cookie
- 2nd Sr Breeder Herd
- Runner up Premier Breeder
- Reserve Best Bred & Owned - Most Valuable

Both Lisa & Lee are directors on the Central Alberta Holstein Club board with Lisa being the club secretary and Lee coordinates the barn cow competition. The whole family is very active in the Club events. Lee is currently on his mandatory year off of the provincial board after 8 years as a Alberta Holstein director. He is also a committee member for the Alberta Dairy Congress. This past year our farm hosted the CAHC & Udderly Unique 4H club Judging day as well as a judging workshop for the Crestomere Multi-species Club. Outside of the dairy industry, both Marylee & Lisa are members of the Wolfville Community Ladies Club, both Lee & Lisa are on their church's Family Ministry Committee, and Lee also serves on the Church's Transitional Committee.

Fun Fact: In the old Tie Stall barn, aside from sports events, the only event that was deemed acceptable to be late for milking was to watch the Kentucky Derby.

What do you think are the most valuable services of Holstein Canada and the Alberta Holstein Association? Having the information to determine and publicly display the top animals in the breed for the members to use as a breeding guide to improve Canadian Dairy Cattle. I also think having a business that can mandate change to help improve the breeding strategies. It takes these types of businesses to make change and an example I can think of is implementing testing of class winners at the Royal, this has drastically changed the udders in this country. As well as updating new needs on the classification system as we see weaknesses appearing in the breed.

We are honoured to have been named the Central Alberta Holstein Club Breeder of the Year for 2023!

