

# Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association

## NEWSLETTER

*Spring 2007*



*This Month's Photo Contest Winner ... See inside*

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Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association  
[www.airenet.com/canadianblondes](http://www.airenet.com/canadianblondes)  
Newsletter Editor: Kathleen Windsor  
[www.windsorgraphics.ca](http://www.windsorgraphics.ca)

**EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2007!**

**Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association**  
c/o Canadian Livestock Records Corporation  
2417 Holly Lane  
Ottawa, Ontario K1V 0M7  
Phone: 613-731-7110  
Fax: 613-731-0704  
E-Mail: [cbda@clrc.ca](mailto:cbda@clrc.ca)

To view the newsletter in full  
colour, check it out on the web:  
[www.airenet.com/canadianblondes](http://www.airenet.com/canadianblondes)

# West Wind Blondes

*Performance Evaluated Bulls*

Check out the details at [www.biobeef.com](http://www.biobeef.com)

**FOR  
SALE BY  
PRIVATE  
TREATY**



@ 84 day weigh ADG 3.30 lbs. WPDA 3.20 lbs.

All will have Ultrasound and a Bull Breeding Soundness Evaluation completed in March 2007.

**Reserve your Bull for the 2007 Breeding Season.**

## **WEST WIND BLONDES**

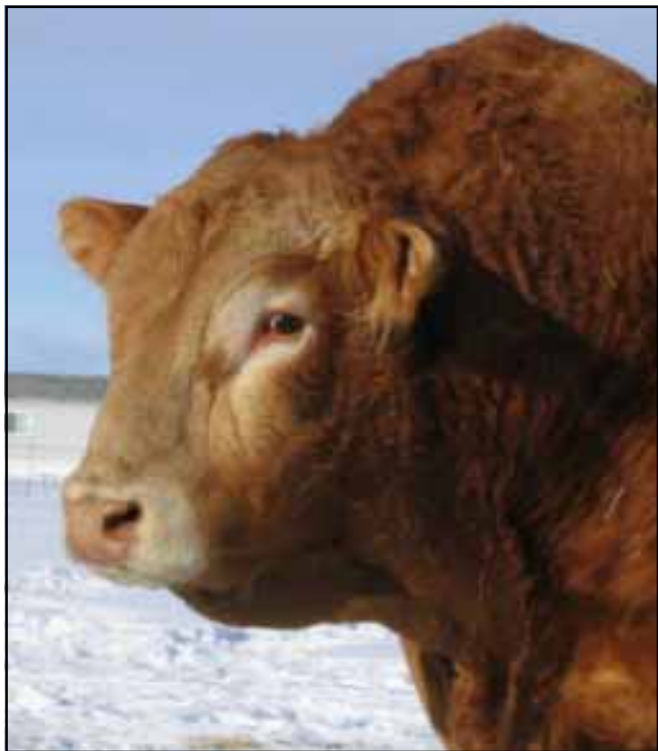
Box 334, Stavely, Alberta T0L 1Z0 ... Phone: 403-549-2371

E-Mail: [westwind@telusplanet.net](mailto:westwind@telusplanet.net) ... [www.telusplanet.net/public/westwind](http://www.telusplanet.net/public/westwind)

# **FOR SALE**

**BLONDE BULLS  
YEARLINGS & 2 YR OLDS  
POLLED & HORNED  
SEMEN TESTED**

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403 335 4368  
[www.westlanefarms.com](http://www.westlanefarms.com)**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Blonde d'Aquitaine breeders in Canada have some very positive things for which to be thankful:

- If the numbers for the first two months of 2007 are any indication, the registration rebate program seems to have breeders registering their calves.
- We have several new members purchasing Blonde animals – hopefully, they will become active Blonde breeders
- Your Board has a full complement of nine Directors. They are a very cohesive and dedicated group – all are able to be contacted by phone, fax of email.
- Your Board has mounted a very aggressive, cost-effective advertising program
- This newsletter has become a very positive initiative to communicate and disseminate information to the Membership – electronically where possible (cost effective) and by surface mail to those without e-mail addresses.
- Advertising is now accepted in this medium to defray costs.
- The Association has a Bank Balance “in the black” – another very positive happening. The Membership and Registration/Transfer Levies for 2006 have been distributed to the Provinces.
- At the direction of the Membership at the AGM in Neepawa, the office is moving effective April 1, 2007 to Canadian Livestock Records Corporation in Ottawa, Ontario. This move will reduce administrative costs (bank charges, telephone costs, office supplies) and will eliminate the monthly office rental.

The board has undertaken a very ambitious project which, for lack of a better term, will be referred to as “Beefs and Bouquets”. Each Canadian member will be called by a Board Member to seek your opinion and what we are doing that makes you pleased. What suggestions do you have that may help to improve the organization? Should your Board be working to publish a new *Blonde Connection* and have it incorporate a new Breeders' Directory? If your response to this last question is yes, will you advertise in it?

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board Members for their diligence and their support.

To all breeders – “*happy calving!*”


## 2007 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Myrna Flesch President	Box 334, Stavely, Alberta T0L 1Z0 403-549-2371 E-mail: westwind@telusplanet.net
Ian Kruis Vice-President	6325 Enfield Road, R.R. 1 Hampton, Ontario L0B 1J0 905-263-2930 E-mail: farmerkruis@knoxpumkinfarm.ca
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Marcel Lachance Treasurer	3558 Highway 7, RR 3 Norwood, Ontario K0L 2V0 705-639-2183 E-mail: marcel_lachance@sympatico.ca
Dave McNeven Past-President	4426 County Road 2, R.R. 3 Hastings, Ontario K0L 1Y0 705-295-6208 E-mail: mcnevan@nexicom.net
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John Vink	40 Gazley Road, R.R. 1 Wooler, Ontario K0K 3M0 613-397-1890 E-mail: jiv@reach.net

## TATTOO LETTER FOR 2007 IS “T”

# **PINE COULEE BLONDES**

**Home of  
West Winds  
Gershwin 147G**



**Mike & Lisl CRABBE**  
mjandec@platinum.ca  
403-549-2018 ... 403-668-6220  
P.O. Box 406, Stavely, AB T0L 1Z0



# Safe-guarding your genetics for future generations.

## The Canadian Animal Genetic Resources (CAGR) Program.

The old saying “Choose the Best – Breed to the Best – Hope for the Best” has been around since the dawn of animal domestication and livestock production. Regardless of the production type or sector (meat, dairy, poultry, fiber, draft or pleasure) being commercialized; the saying still holds true. Today our production schemes and breeding decisions are market driven and we are better equipped to choose genetics that will best meet our breeding goals to secure our market shares, both nationally and internationally. Accurate genetic evaluations and pedigrees, extensive DNA-based marker-assisted breeding programs and modern reproductive technologies allow us to rely on a few selected lines of elite genetics. In the short-term, using a restricted gene pool may assure immediate genetic progress or economic gains, but we are rapidly losing genetic variation within our own breeds. In the long-term, a lack of genetic variation simply means a reduced ability to make genetic changes, reducing our ability to select for new traits to meet shifting markets, and losing our competitive edge to foreign breeders and foreign genetics.

Maintaining profitability in a competitive agri-food industry and increasing consumer demands for a uniform product are forcing livestock stakeholders to rely on a few high producing breeds. This global trend is affecting all sectors of animal husbandry. Once favored, locally adapted breeds can no longer compete with today’s most popular stocks. As a result, some Canadian livestock and poultry breeds are now facing possible extinction. Not only are we losing genetic variation within

large popular breeds, we are also losing diversity across our Canadian farm animal breeds.

The conservation of diversity in all Canadian farm animal species and the preservation of genetic variation within breeds are critical to our food safety and security; and to support sustainable rural development while promoting export markets. Facilitated by the Canadian Farm Animal Genetic Resources Foundation (CFAGRF), Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada,

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### ***The long-term health of our livestock industry depends on accessible and diverse genetic resources.***

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& the University of Saskatchewan launched the Canadian Animal Genetic Resources (CAGR) program in May 2006. The mission of CAGR is to conserve the genetic diversity of all Canadian livestock and poultry breeds by acquiring, evaluating and cryopreserving tissues, DNA, gametes (semen and oocytes) and embryos while focusing research on animal genetic diversity, developing improved methods of cryopreservation and reproductive technologies for the benefit of all Canadians. The long-term health of our livestock industry depends on accessible and diverse genetic resources.

One key activity of CAGR is the development & maintenance of a national gene/DNA bank representing a collection of germplasm (semen, oocytes and embryos) and DNA samples from all Canadian livestock and poultry breeds. For all species it is

essential to collect a sufficient quantity of germplasm for breed regeneration, following a national crisis such as a large pandemic or accidental loss of valuable lines or a breed, and to have additional quantities for research and future industry use (following an emergency). Individual breeders and AI companies can make an important contribution to the conservation of valuable genetic resources through voluntary germplasm donations to the national animal gene bank. Those interested in the long-term conservation of their specific genetics should contact CAGR for donation modalities, obtaining donation forms and to arrange for the transfer of the material to the Saskatoon facility. In general, donations are voluntary and once received they become the property of CAGR. However, CAGR agrees not to redistribute the germplasm or DNA for commercial interests, but may use or share a portion of the material for research purposes. To acquire certain germplasm or DNA, CAGR can develop specific collaborative agreements to protect the donor’s rights for a specific period of time. In most cases, CAGR will cover the cost of transportation of the donation. All donations will be acknowledged and base animal information will be entered into our Genetic Resource Information Network (GRIN-CA); some of these data may be shared with the public.

For livestock and poultry breeds, the animal gene bank is seeking donations of semen (fresh, extended or frozen). The number of semen doses per bull, for donation to the animal gene bank, will vary depending on availability, but the maximum needed is 100

doses per bull. We are especially interested in acquiring semen samples that were processed several years ago as this valuable genetic resource may be rare and difficult to acquire. In some cases, fresh ejaculates may be the most convenient to collect and this material will also be accepted by the animal gene bank. There are no limits on the number of embryos that will be accepted, and in certain cases it may be necessary to have embryos collected and cryopreserved. Upon arrival, semen will be evaluated for morphology and viability (progressive motility) and maintained in a manner to retain the sample's viability (either from fresh or frozen material). A portion of the material may be used for research in reproduction, cryobiology and genetic diversity. The material will be prepared for long-term conservation and maintained at our facilities. As such, the animal gene bank offers breeders a free and secure off-site facility for the long-term preservation of genetic resources developed by Canadians. In addition, donations of livestock and poultry germplasms from non-Canadian origin will be considered, especially if they have played an important role in Canadian agriculture.

CAGR is also working towards new and improved protocols to cryopreserve germplasm. There is a need to better understand why semen from some males freezes better than others or why *in vitro* fertilization (IVF) works well in some species and not in others. These research areas are mandatory for efficient long-term conservation strategies of our genetic resources. It is important to remember that the purpose of the animal gene bank is to capture and conserve as much germplasm and genetic diversity as is currently available before these

genetic resources are lost by accident, or because of no immediate or perceived demand in breeding programs. Your donations will greatly support these research initiatives.

Individual breeders who may not have germplasm ready for donation may still contribute to the study of genetic diversity by providing samples of DNA from their animals to the animal gene bank. Tissue samples (frozen), blood (fresh, frozen or spotted onto blood cards), dead semen, hair (with the roots attached) and blood feathers are all material suitable to estimate genetic variation within and across all breeds of farm animals or poultry. Donations of material for DNA studies require the same donation forms and must follow the same modalities as for germplasm donations. Again, interested participants should contact CAGR

to obtain general guidelines on how to collect and ship the material. The goals for DNA collections are to gather enough material to thoroughly evaluate genetic diversity within and across livestock and poultry breeds and to develop indicators of change in diversity through time. Baseline knowledge is required to develop conservation strategies and future utilization policies for Canadian genetic resources. They also help Canada meet its international commitments to the conservation of livestock and poultry genetic resources.

The acquisition, characterization and preservation of Canadian farm animal genetic resources are our collective duty & responsibility for future generations. CAGR is there to facilitate this process and it invites all those interested in preserving their livestock and poultry genetics to participate. ■

**Any questions or interests in making donations to the CAGR program can be directed to:**

Yves Plante, Genetic Diversity	306 956 7209	plantey@agr.gc.ca
Carl Lessard, Gamete/Embryo Biology	306 956 7221	lessardc@agr.gc.ca
Mohammad Anzar, Cryobiology	306 956 2900	anzarm@agr.gc.ca
Ken Richards, Research Manager	306 956 7641	richardsk@agr.gc.ca

Keep an eye on our selection of five Blonde bulls on test at the Douglas, Manitoba Test Station ([www.mbbulltest.mb.ca](http://www.mbbulltest.mb.ca)). These bulls are all double-polled purebred sons of Triple C Vigilante 999K and Kay Lee 32K (we call him Jack). Vigilante's sons have distinguished themselves at the Douglas Test Station, bringing home the high gainer trophy in two of the past three years. Jack is now gone from our herd and so his sons on test at Douglas this year are your last chance to strengthen your herd with a son of this high-selling bull at the 2000-2001 Man-Sask Blonde Bull Test Sale. We also have a few yearling and two-year old bulls for sale at home.



**BLUE DIAMOND BLONDES**

**THE HOME OF QUALITY BLONDES**

Contact Dave Gerega by telephone at (204) 937-3426 at Roblin, Manitoba or by e-mail at [dger@mts.net](mailto:dger@mts.net).

## UPCOMING EVENTS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Mar 17	12 - 3 pm	Kenilworth 1 Open House (Bulls)/Private Treaty Sales	Kenilworth, Ontario
Mar 31		Ontario Blonde Association, Annual General Meeting	Rockhaven Inn, Peterborough, Ontario
Mar 31		Olds College Steer-A-Year Open House	Olds, Alberta (must advise if attending)
Apr 6	8 pm	Man-Sask Blonde Association, Annual Meeting	Agricultural Extension Centre, 1129 Queens Ave, Brandon, Manitoba
Apr 7		Bull Sale	Douglas, MB Test Stn
Apr 14	12 - 3 pm	Kenilworth #2, Open House (Bulls)/Private Treaty Sale	Kenilworth, Ontario
Apr 28	1 - 3:30 pm	Douglas #2, Bull Viewing/Private Treaty Sales	Douglas, Ontario
August		Lavelaine's Production Sale	
Oct 13		Cream of the Crop Sale	Hoards Station, Ontario
Oct 27	1 pm	Pick O' the West Sale	Olds Auction Mart, Olds, AB

## TIPS AND TRICKS FOR LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS

### BULLS AND THE DNA STORY

To register calves from a bull, the bull must have DNA on file. This is recorded on the Bull's Registration Paper – as number that begins "DNA DC \_\_\_\_\_"

If you are planning on registering calves from the bull you are purchasing, always insist that your purchase has DNA recorded. This eliminates unexpected costs or surprises later, when you do go to register offspring.

### A REMINDER

Register and transfer the animals you sell. If you are within the first 145 animals to be registered between January 1 and March 31, 2007 you will qualify for a \$10.00 Registration Rebate, on each fullblood or purebred registration under the SGQR Grant.

*Also, if your purchaser is not and has never been a member of the Canadian Blonde Association, he or she will be issued a **free** Courtesy Membership for the year 2007.*

### SEMEN IN YOUR TANK YOU WANT TO SELL?

Make it more saleable by having **DNA** completed on it. It is a simple process; just place a straw in an envelope with your request to have DNA certification completed to SRC. There will be a charge of \$57.00 + GST but that should make the semen more saleable. Semen can then be advertised on The Marketplace Page of the Canadian Blonde Association Website for a nominal fee.

### NEWS FLASH!

Beef Improvement Ontario announced that their Herd Recording Pin Award Winners include Cleve Jessup and Steven Acres with 5 Year Awards, and West Wind Blondes with a 10 Year Award!



**CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE  
BLONDE BREEDERS!**



***Breeders received Registration Rebates on 355 animals registered between June 1 and December 31, 2006!***

## FRIENDLY REMINDERS



### Want to Read Minutes from Board Meetings?

Log onto the Association website at [www.airenet.com/canadianblondes](http://www.airenet.com/canadianblondes) and click the "Members Only" button. Type in the password. **The password has**

**changed so you will need to contact a Board member to get the new password.**

[www.airenet.com/canadianblondes](http://www.airenet.com/canadianblondes)

## MEMBER NEWSLETTER

The quarterly newsletter features events, articles, and programs of interest to members of the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association. The newsletter will be e-mailed to all members with e-mail addresses, and will be posted on the Canadian website. Those without an e-mail address will receive the newsletter by Canada Post.

Issue	Deadline	Distribution Date
Spring	March 1	March 15
Summer	June 1	June 15
Fall	September 1	September 15
Winter	December 1	December 15

## DNA Markers

Copies of the DNA marker reports are no longer maintained in the Calgary Office. They are available by request through SRC or CLRC. The instances when these are needed is rare. A minimal fee of 99 cents will be charged by CLRC for this information.

## MARKET YOUR SEEDSTOCK ONLINE

Why not advertise your bulls, cows, heifers, semen or embryos where the world can see what you have available! Text only ads on the Marketplace page are just \$5! Ads with pictures are charged \$10 per picture.

**FAX OR E-MAIL YOUR INFO TO THE OFFICE:**

**FAX 403-276-7577**

**E-MAIL [cbda@airenet.com](mailto:cbda@airenet.com)**

**Planning an international excursion that will bring benefit to the Blonde breed in Canada? Contact a member of the Canadian Board. Partial funding may be available through Canadian Beef Breeds Council.**

## Blonde Sire Summary

The Blonde Sire Summary is available online on Beef Improvement Ontario's (BIO's) website. A few printed copies are available by contacting Myrna Flesch at 403-549-2371 or e-mailing [westwind@telusplanet.net](mailto:westwind@telusplanet.net).

**Help us save postage! Send your e-mail address to Canadian Livestock Records to be added to your Membership File at [betty.foti@clrc.ca](mailto:betty.foti@clrc.ca).**

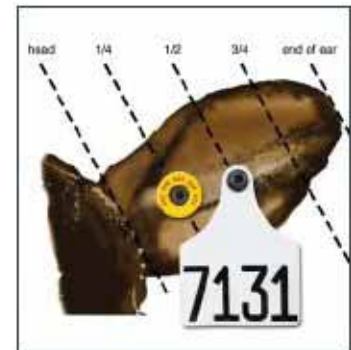
## How to Achieve Optimal RFID Tag Retention

RFID tags are required to pass trial with a 99% retention rate in lab and in field.

There are three things that producers can do to ensure optimal tag retention:

- Ensure proper tag applicator is being used for specific tag brand (speak with your local Dealer)
- Ensure proper backing studs are being used (tags are approved as a tag set)
- Ensure proper tagging location is utilized (see diagram)

CCIA Technical Field Specialist Tracey Gardner reminds producers that, "CCIA Approved tags have gone through a vigorous testing process to ensure they meet all standards. However, producers must make sure they are applying the tags correctly to achieve optimal retention."



*From the CCIA News, Winter 2006*

# BREEDER PROFILE

## BUTTERNUT BLONDES

### The most important criteria is disposition!

Written by Myrna Flesch

Does your curiosity ever get the best of you? Mine did and so I asked Murphy Baker – “How did you come up with the name Butternut Blondes?” He replied there were Butternut trees on the farm his father was raised on in Buckingham, Quebec and when Murphy visited there when he was a child he had grown to love those particular trees – so much so that he has tried to grow them on his present farm. He says with limited success, but he does have some, hence the name Butternut Blondes. He went on to tell me they bear fruit similar in texture to a walnut – as *Paul Harvey* would say – and now you know the rest of the story!

Murphy tells me that he spent a good part of his time off farm working as a millwright and on his retirement in 1998 he had worked 39.7 years with General Motors. He bought 110 acres of land in 1987, joining the ranks of a hobby farmer, and built a house, shop and pole barns with the help of one of his sons.

He met Judy in 1992 and they were married in 1998 (this is a second marriage for both). Judy relates that she was an Administration Officer with a Bank and that she was given the *Golden Handshake* and has basically been helping with the cows since then.

As a writer, I asked the usual question – “How did you come to get into Blondes?” Murphy stated in 1989 he read an article written by Joyce Dowling of Doublejay Farms regarding her sale but felt he could not afford those “expensive” animals. He later went to a sale in Blackstock and bought his first Blonde bull – K-Mar Acres Jake 3W. He was so impressed with the calves the following year, he decided to buy more Blondes.



In 1992 he went to the Pick O' The West Sale in Alberta and purchased some West Wind and Van Alta cattle. He states his current bull, Butternut Jingles, goes directly back to Shirley Bilton's breeding

program. Murphy said what impressed him most was that, “Shirley got in the ring and told exactly what to expect with each cow” and he said he was not disappointed with his purchases.



The Bakers have two sons – one (Shane) helps with the cattle and part of the year drives a cement pumper truck. The remainder of the year he works logging for firewood – a business Murphy started but has since turned over to Shane. Their second son is an Elevator Inspection Officer, living in Peterborough, Ontario and has never been involved with the farm. Judy and Murphy state they have 85 cows – with a 50/50 split between the purebred and commercial animals – but their bull is always Blonde. Their commercial herd is made up basically of Red Angus, a breed they say crosses well with their Blonde bulls. They finish most of their own stockers and market their finished cattle at the auction mart in Cookstown, Ontario.

Murphy cuts and bales his own hay and they purchase corn and barley for finishing and straw for bedding. He rents additional property.

Butternut Blondes operates very closely along the lines of farms in Western Canada – having a definite calving season starting in January and carrying on until March with the stragglers being calved out before haying starts.

Both state Dave McNevan and Laverne McGee were instrumental in getting them started into the show ring with their Blondes about four years ago. The Bakers stated they have enjoyed the shows for the camaraderie shown by the other breeders and also for the ability to meet many people at the fairs. I am told that at the International Plowing Match, if you visit the

Beef Tent, Murphy will always attempt to sell you a raffle ticket! Judy and Murphy feel this is a good opportunity to advertise the cattle and exhibit their docile nature.

Murphy likes to AI about 30 - 40 cows every year. He believes in EPDs as a tool, but states they are only as reliable as the person who inputs them. He tries to match bloodlines for calving ease, milk production, and good feet and legs. The Bakers' most important criteria is disposition – neither want a rodeo! They believe their Blonde cattle sell themselves with their quiet dispositions and good cutability. Both believe that Blonde breeders must make “their word their bond, as you will only sell once if the quality is not there”.

If you look at the Butternut Blonde registered herd, you will find that most of the animals currently shown bear the Butternut name, but look further and you will find incorporated in the pedigrees: Gelstar, Roseneath, Double W Blonde Lea, Blon Dell, Clare Elle and West Wind breeding programs. They also own animals from Brydown Farms, Cin-Lee Acres, Hanover Stock Farm and High Rock Blondes. At the National Sale in Neepawa, Murphy and Judy said they were at the sale to replace some older animals in their herd and they took home several young females from Forty Acre Blondes, Triple K Blondes and Blue Diamond Blondes.

Judy has a sideline business – that of raising and breeding registered border collies. They presently have three border collies that assist them with moving their cattle. Judy says “at our age neither can run” – hence their four-footed friends are very important. Murphy's major concern – the present age of the Blonde breeders – is going to be a factor in the survival of the breed. He is an avid supporter of 4-H and likes to encourage young folks interested in cattle to become Blonde breeders.

Murphy has served on the Ontario Board for the last four years as Secretary-Treasurer. Judy utilizes her skills doing the bookkeeping. They attended the Canadian Blonde Association Annual General Meeting in Neepawa, Manitoba in November 2006, and Murphy picked up another hat – that of a Director on the Canadian Board. ■

Advertising Deadline for  
the Summer newsletter is  
**June 1, 2007.**  
Get your ad material in early!

## HOEJER GENETICS

“BLONDE d' AQUITAINE”

### Embryos and Semen FOR SALE

From Top producing  
bloodlines in Europe.

Contact us for further information.

Hoejer Genetics  
Niels Peter Hoejer  
Denmark - Europe  
info@hoejer-genetics.dk

Tel.: +0045 75780717  
or +0045 20116385

*We're Growing!*

Last summer the Board of Directors purchased a domain name for the Association. It is now time to implement that domain. **As of April 1, 2007, you will be able to access the Canadian Association's website at [www.canadianblondeassociation.ca](http://www.canadianblondeassociation.ca).**



Also effective that date, we're moving offices! The Association will now operate out of the CLRC office in Ottawa. Contact information will now be:

**CANADIAN BLONDE D'AQUITAINE ASSOCIATION**  
c/o Canadian Livestock Records Corporation  
2417 Holly Lane, Ottawa, Ontario K1V 0M7  
613-731-7110 ... Fax: (613) 731-0704

### DO YOU HAVE SANDBROOK NAILL R2253 SEMEN?

Phil Leibold of Paddock Farms is looking for semen that is exportable to the United States on Sandbrook Naill. E-mail [beefbypfb@yahoo.com](mailto:beefbypfb@yahoo.com) or call (802)426-4086.



**4-H Ontario Report:** Thirteen junior members showed Blonde calves as their 4-H projects in Ontario in 2006. Western Ontario, Central Ontario, and Eastern Ontario all saw Blonde calves being shown in the 4-H classes of their cattle shows at various fairs and exhibitions.



**Andrew Bunda, Ashley McNeven, Bill Blackburn, Brad Stein, Brittany Sears, Darren Vink, Dylan Thompson, Ian Vink, Jonathan Bouwmeester, Phillipa Marvin, Rachel Vink, Whitney Hawkins, and William Bunda** all received a full refund of their 2006 4-H provincial membership fees. Congratulations to every one of you, and best wishes for a successful 2007 season, showing those wonderful Blonde cattle!



Don't forget that the OBdAA is also sponsoring another award for junior members showing in 4-H. A 4-H member with a Blonde calf project, who shows his or her calf at 2 fairs (minimum), and wins a first placing in a 4-H conformation class (with a minimum of three animals in the ring), receives **\$100** from the Ontario Blonde d'Aquitaine Association (Proof of winning to be provided). No one has won this award yet; see if you can be the first to receive this prestigious award!

**To receive a 2007 entry form for 4-H and Blonde Shows, contact a local 4-H club leader, the Ontario Blonde d'Aquitaine Association or go to the website [www.ontarioblondes.com](http://www.ontarioblondes.com) for a printable file.**

## CANADIAN BLONDES PHOTO CONTEST

We are very pleased to announce the latest winner of our Photo Contest. Bill Van Bakel of Van Bakel Blondes, Dublin, Ontario submitted several photos for the contest this round. "While many were pretty good, this one was a stand-out," says judge Kathleen Windsor. "If what we're looking for is to promote the breed, this one does the trick."



consider adding Blondes to their breeding programs.

The Photo Contest Judging Criteria is on the Association website.

This contest also makes a great 4-H project. Talk to your leader and help us expose our Blonde cattle to the world!

One of the nice things about this particular photo is that it gives the printer lots of room to be creative. There's room for text top, sides and bottom, if that is required. There's opportunity to make this photo a long horizontal shot that could include another animal that has been cropped out for this newsletter.

The winning entry now gives Bill a \$25 credit towards his next fullblood or purebred registration!

What we are looking for are pictures of Blonde cattle in the pasture, in the show ring, in the pens ... but specifically new photos that have not been published before. Our photo inventory is in great need of updating, and we need new pictures for promoting the breed in various mediums. It is important these photos show the quality of the breed, as we work to encourage other stockmen to

The decision of the webmaster is final. The Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Board reserves the right to not have a winner if it is deemed no picture is eligible in a particular month.

**Colin & Felicity Manuel**  
**SHAMBANI BLONDES**  
 P.O. Box 882  
 Rocky Mountain House, AB T4T 1A6  
**Phone: 403-845-4914**  
**E-Mail: colinmanuel@hotmail.com**  
**Yearling & 2 yr Old**  
**Bulls for Sale**