

CANADIAN BLONDE *News*



Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association
c/o Canadian Livestock Records Corporation
2417 Holly Lane, Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 0M7
Phone: 613-731-7110 | Fax: 613-731-0704
Email: cbda@clrc.ca
Web: www.canadianblondeassociation.ca



2018 BOARD of DIRECTORS

NICHOLAS BOYD | President

56-35 Mountford Dr, Guelph, ON N1E 0G6

P: 519-835-9099 | E: oneoakblonde@gmail.com

ASHLEY MCNEVAN | Vice President

4426 County Rd., RR3, Hastings, Ontario K0L 1Y0

P: 705-295-6208 | E: hilltoporchardfarm@gmail.com

REED RIGNEY | Secretary

Box 5959, Westlock, AB T7P 2P7

P: 780-348-5308 | E: rigney@clearwave.ca

DAVID KAMELCHUK | Treasurer

Box 32 Ellscoot, Alberta T0A 1B0

P: 780-675-1227 | E: littlecreekagroforestry@gmail.com

RYLAND CLEARY

310 Ch Bourassa, Ste. Anne De La Rochelle, QC JOE 2B0

P: 450-539-0385

E: slyrye12345@hotmail.com

PAUL FERGUSON

21 Crystal Rd., RR3, Jasper, ON K0G 1G0

P: 613-275-2422 | E: ferguson.maryellen@gmail.com

SARAH PIERCE

31 Bank St, Tupperville, ON N0P 2M0

P: 519-466-1853 | E: rspierce2016@gmail.com

SHELLIE WOLFE

RR 2 Site 4 Comp 1, Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4E8

P: 250-782-8565 | E: dustyacreblondes@outlook.com

BILL VAN BAKEL

7060 Line 28 RR 2 West Perth Dublin, ON N0K 1E0

P: 519-345-2518 | E: vbb@ezlink.ca

PROVINCIAL CONTACTS

ALBERTA / BRITISH COLUMBIA

Reed Rigney

Phone: 780-348-5308

Email: rigney@clearwave.ca

www.albertablondescattle.com

MANITOBA / SASKATCHEWAN

Pat Filz

Phone: 306-634-2174

Email: fortyacreblondes@sasktel.net

ONTARIO

Paul Fee

Phone: 705-835-2581

Email: feehavenfarms@hotmail.com

www.ontarioblondes.com

QUEBEC

Maureen Landry

Phone: 819-336-3966

Email: blondaquitaineqc@hotmail.com

www.blondaquitaineqc.com

At the recent AGM in Trenton, Ontario several By-laws amendments were passed. Most were clarifications and updated wording, however there are a few we would like to bring to your attention.

Quorum for future AGM's will be 10 voting members present (down from 15), and each voting member will only be able to carry two (down from three) proxy votes. The purpose for this was to make it easier to hold the AGM outside of Ontario.

A By-law was also added that stated a female must have at least 14 days between breeding or exposure to one bull before being exposed to a different bull, otherwise parentage verification on the resulting calf would be needed. This had previously been a breed policy, and was instated due to parentage issues when animals were bred and exposed to different bulls within a short period of time.

We would also like to welcome Sarah Pierce of Beaver Meadow Blondes - Tupperville, ON to the Board & thank Paul Fee of Fee Haven Farms -Waubaushene, ON for his six years of service.

A reminder regarding the bull Hallfield Fanfare who is being distributed through ABS Global in Canada (Genus is the parent company). He is not registered in Canada, and therefore any progeny are also ineligible for registration in Canada. The company has not forwarded any of the necessary documentation to the CBDA, and did not do so upon request by the CBDA. Please do not confuse this bull with Hallfield Icarus, who is registered in Canada, and has semen available through SEMEX.

President's Message

After some back and forth weather, the winter season has finally settled in for the long haul. Things have gone quiet on social media which likely means many of our members were making final preps for wintering their cattle. While many of us will go into hibernation mode, jolly saint Rick Drinkill has a new bounce in his step thinking of all the money each snowfall brings.

The fall itself was a busy one in Ontario, with many fall fairs being attended, the National Show hosted at the Markham Fair, and the National AGM being held in conjunction with the Cream of the Crop Sale. Rounding out the schedule, four members of the Ontario 4H club represented the Blonde breed well at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto. Out west, the Kamelchuk family made sure we were noticed at Farm Fair in Edmonton, with their youngest daughter Delaney bringing home Reserve Grand Champion Female with her heifer calf.

While the winter months get quiet, let us not lose focus of the energy we had as a breed this year. New faces have joined the breed, and many old faces have resurfaced with a renewed passion. At the Cream of the Crop sale, sale average prices were on the rise. The show scene brought about its usual fun filled day of laughs, camaraderie and as Harv likes to say "making memories". The National Show had a fantastic turnout with a very competitive junior class, with members of all ages coming from all over the province.

Excitement will soon set in as those January calvers will begin to spring up and a new crop of calves begin to appear. Decisions on the 2019 breeding season will be mulled over as we daydream of the perfect outcrosses. Two things we must not lose sight of as we make these decisions – 1) breeding for quality and 2) the performance program. While everyone has a different eye for cattle, and different philosophies on breeding, we as a breed need to be more cognizant of the bulls we are using to ensure quality production. Every mating may not be a homerun but using good quality bulls gives a breeder a better chance at a stronger group from top to bottom. In terms of performance, its vital to our long term sustainability and requires all of our breeders to buy in. While it may seem daunting, we have many board members willing to help make it easy for everyone. It simply requires each breeder recording their birth weights on each of their calves. This may just be the first step in the program, but it is important and serves to help us going forward. If you have any questions please reach out to any CBDA Board members for help.

Last but not least, I'd like to wish everyone safe and happy holiday season spent with family and friends. It should be a time of great cheer, relaxation and smiles while taking time to reflect on how truly lucky we all are to be healthy and enjoying our passion – Blonde cattle.

Merry Christmas,

Nicholas Boyd

Message de la Présidente

Après quelques changements de température, la saison hivernale s'est finalement installée à long terme. Les médias sociaux étant au ralenti signifie probablement que nos membres se préparent à hiverner leur bétail. Alors que beaucoup d'entre nous passeront en mode hibernation, le joyeux Saint Rick Drinkill a un nouveau rebond en pensant à tout l'argent que rapportera chaque chute de neige.



L'automne a été une période occupée en Ontario, avec de nombreuses expositions d'automne, le National organisé à la foire de Markham et l'AGA nationale qui a lieu parallèlement avec la vente du "Cream of the Crop". Enfin, quatre membres du Club 4H de l'Ontario ont bien représenté la race Blonde à la Royal Winter Fair de Toronto. Dans l'ouest, la famille Kamelchuk a veillé à ce que nous soyons bien remarqués au Farm Fair d'Edmonton, avec leur fille cadette, Delaney, qui a ramenée à la maison une grande championne de réserve avec sa génisse.

Tandis que les mois tranquilles de l'hiver sont là, n'oublions pas l'énergie que nous avons en tant que race cette année. De nouveaux visages ont rejoint la race et de nombreux vieux visages ont refait surface avec une passion renouvelée. À la vente du "Cream of the Crop", la moyenne des prix de vente était à la hausse. Le spectacle a donné lieu à sa journée habituelle de rire, de camaraderie et comme le dit si bien Harv « des nouveaux souvenirs ». Le spectacle National a eu un taux de participation fantastique avec une classe junior très compétitive, avec des membres de tous âges venant de partout de la province.

L'excitation va bientôt s'installer lorsqu'une nouvelle génération de veaux apparaîtra bientôt. Les décisions sur la saison de reproduction 2019 seront prises en compte alors que nous rêvons à des croisements parfaits. Deux choses que nous ne devons pas perdre de vue lorsque nous prenons ces décisions - 1) améliorer la qualité et 2) le programme de performance. Alors que tout le monde a un œil différent pour le bétail et une philosophie différente en matière d'élevage, nous, en tant que race, devons être plus conscients des taureaux que nous utilisons pour assurer une production de qualité. Chaque accouplement n'est peut-être pas un court-circuit, mais l'utilisation de taureaux de bonne qualité donne une meilleure chance à un éleveur de former un groupe plus fort. En termes de performance, il est vital pour notre durabilité à long terme et requiert l'adhésion de tous nos éleveurs. Bien que cela puisse sembler décourageant, de nombreux membres du conseil d'administration sont prêts à aider à rendre la tâche facile pour tout le monde. Chaque éleveur doit simplement enregistrer le poids à la naissance pour chacun de ses veaux. Ce n'est peut-être que la première étape du programme, mais c'est important et sert à nous aider à aller de l'avant. Si vous avez des questions, n'hésitez pas à contacter les membres du conseil d'administration de la CBDA.

Enfin et surtout, je voudrais souhaiter à tout le monde de Joyeuses fêtes avec la famille et les amis. Ça devrait être un moment de bonne humeur, de détente et de sourires, tout en prenant le temps d'apprécier la chance que nous avons d'être en bonne santé et de profiter de notre passion – la Blonde.

Traduction : Maureen Landry

Nicholas Boyd



Cover: Contributed by Nicole & Shane Baker of Sunderland, Ontario of their kids Braeden, Mackenzie, Shelby.

To access the **Members Only Section** on the website, please contact a Board member for the password. This page features current and archived Board minutes, as well as AGM minutes and committee reports since 2005.

The Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association is not responsible for any claims made in an advertisement appearing in this magazine.





NEWS *from the*

ALBERTA / BRITISH COLUMBIA



Little Creek Farms exhibited at Farmfair International in Edmonton, winning the Multi Breed Reserve Champion Female banner with their heifer calf Little Creek French Kiss 199F. Thanks to the Kamelchuk family for making sure Blondes were represented at the show.

Little Creek Farms and Willow Springs Stock Farm also had the opportunity to host visitors from Denmark in October. Blonde breeders Susanne and Jens Peder Bojsen stopped in to see some Canadian Blondes while on their travels around Alberta.

The Alberta Association is in the planning phase for the 2019 National which would be held at the Olds Fall Classic October 3-6, 2019.

Unfortunately due to a low number of bulls calves born amongst our breeders we did not have enough bulls to run an official bull test. Bulls are still available from individual breeders. Check our website or breed publications for Breeders in your area.

by Reed Rigney

MANITOBA / SASKATCHEWAN



Hello out there, how do you like the winter so far? It has sure been a roller coaster ride since fall, with rain drizzling for a month after experiencing a dryer than normal summer, then an early end to summer pastures due to cold and snow in the fields. This was awkward as the corrals and trails to the fields became very rutted when taking a bale out. This month we experienced 10 days of dense fog that left inches of rime frost on all lines and trees and caused a major issue with lines going down, having power outages or brown downs all over the province. But in all, so far it is a milder winter, not a lot of snow here with temperatures below normal but not horrible.

The reports from the fellows here say they have sufficient hay for the coming months. Grain was either taken off early or, with the cool damp September, they did not get it off. Around here, there is still a few fields of beans left.

The market stock has been unstable with prices varying steeply. Any crop insurance remuneration does not reflect the value of the necessary feed farmers have lost, as forages and pastures are scarce. Breeding stock has been moving quite well with all of the 2017 bulls being moved, along with a few cows.

Manitoba has a beef club for youngsters that meets in Neepawa at the Beef Round-up for each year. They do not have to be in the 4-H movement to participate, all interested can join. Each year Round-up weekend is filled with friendships, learning, skills and knowledge. Steve from Knobby Oak Farms reported on this event. Man-Sask Blonde Assoc. still gives a gratuity to any 4-H member who shows a blonde-blonde cross animal.

A friend and I took in 3 days of Agribition in Regina this year. It is quite the show with so much to see and do. The cattle numbers were up but unfortunately, Blondes are no longer shown there. There was all kinds of equipment, good for any kind of farming on display there; innovative ideas for both cattle and grain. One that interested me was a gadget that you put on a cows' tail head to monitor when she is going to calf. You need a quiet animal to do that with, for sure but then you can walk away, assured that if any problems arise, you will be informed. Still the best way is to go look for yourself.

Man-Sask will have their annual meeting in April, time and place to be discussed.

Well now, you all have a very Merry Christmas and the best in the New Year to each and everyone out there. May we not need any gadgets once our calving season gets into swing.

by Pat Filz

ONTARIO



I always wanted to start my letter with a weather note, but I could never try to outdo Pat Filz from MAN/SASK. I would say

she has mastered her weather report duties! But seeing as this is a winter report, that is what we seem to have already. For some reason, snow has already started in Ontario which mean it's going to be a long winter.

The Ontario Blonde Association and the membership has reached many milestones since the last newsletter. The board committees and chairs can be congratulated for these

great achievements. 2018 has been a very busy year for Ontario. We finished up our show season with 15 breeders competing at 33 different shows across Ontario making it a total of 220 blonde entries. With the Grand finally hosting the National Show in Markham, what a success this was with 16 breeders and 43 animals displaying their best. Thanks to all who were able to participate. Our numbers have rebounded from the past couple of years.

The 2018 Cream of the Crop Sale is one also for the book of memories. We had visitors attend the sale from as far west as BC. Ross Musgrove of Upper Cache Farms along with two consignors from Alberta. Dave Kamelchuk of Little Creek Blondes and Reed Rigney Of Willow Spring Stock Farm. To the East from Quebec, consignor Phyllis Dubeau of McGillis Acres, with the added bonus of winning the Consignor of the Peoples Choice award (Congratulations) along with visitors Ryland Cleary of Clearidge Blondes, Pierre Leger of Ferme Phanica, who brought special guest/Blonde breeder Antonin Cuq from France. Winners of the raffle draw were Sheree Buchanan of Elmvale Ontario (1st place), and Nicholas Boyd (2nd place), Much thanks to Ashley McNevean for her demonstration to the juniors for techniques in washing, clipping and presenting animals for the show season.

40 lots of quality Blonde cattle, along with blonde semen were sold. This brought totals comparable to what was achieved back in 2014.

Special thanks to all the sponsors of the Ontario National Show, Cream of the Crop Sale and the AGM Hospitality/Mini Auction.

I encourage you all to visit Ontario Blonde's Facebook page to stay informed of all the mentioned past and future events.

I believe that the extensive Ontario Blonde advertising, and the youth programs are showing positive results.

Happy Holidays to all and many successes for the 2019 calving season.

Making Memories, Paul Fee

PROVINCES

QUEBEC

Nouvelles de l'Association Blonde



Bonjour chers Éleveurs

Déjà le mois de Décembre, Les fêtes s'en viennent à grand pas!!

En comparant avec l'année 2017, nous avons eu une année 2018 tranquille en rapport avec les expositions et jugements au Québec.

Vous êtes les bienvenus à interagir sur notre page Facebook ou vous pourriez insérer des photos de vos Blondes ou tout simplement aller chercher des renseignements des autres amis éleveurs.

Pour plus d'information sur votre association, vous pouvez toujours visiter le site Internet de l'association au : <http://www.blondaquitaineqc.com>

Je prends cette occasion pour vous souhaiter de très belles fêtes et une Bonne Année 2018.

Maureen Landry, secrétaire

News from the Québec Blonded'Aquitaine Association

Hello Dear Fellow Breeders

Already December and the Christmas Festivities are just around the corner!

Compared to 2017, it was a quiet year in Québec for the shows.

You are welcome to interact on our Facebook page where you could insert photos of your Blondes or simply get information from other breeders.

For more information on your association, you can always visit the association's website at: <http://www.blondaquitaineqc.com>

Seasons Greetings to all and a very good year in 2019.

Maureen Landry, secretary

21 Crystal Road, Jasper ON K0G 1G0 | Tel: (613)275-2422 | Email: ferguson.maryellen@gmail.com

Crystal
Farms

This holiday season we would like to take the opportunity to say THANK YOU to our buyers:

Bill & Brigitte Reid, Brian Ronayne, Paul & Susie Fee and Sheldon & Chris Asselstine.



Wishing the very best to all in the New Year!

Paul, Mary Ellen, Samantha & Phillip Ferguson



WSS Celebration 2C



2016 & 2017 National Champion Bull
2016 Farmfair Grand Champion Bull
Polled FB Herd Sire owned with Crystal Farms
A product of our Embryo Transplant Program

FOR SALE

Six top quality Fullblood heifer calves from our Embryo Transplant program sired by Celebration, Hanneton, Gai, Jailbreaker & Olympus. Also one outcross ET Polled FB bull sired by Gai. All are halter or tie broke.

A bred heifer sired by WSS Mighty and due to Arshas's Polled Umpire in January and a recipient cow carrying an embryo by Tito and Arshas Polled Sadie (dam of Celebration) - due in February and guaranteed to be polled.

FB embryos available from outcross sires and polled cows - Semen from over 50 sires (catalogue on our website).

Thank You to all of our buyers, bidders and supporters in 2018.



Reed & Michelle Rigney
Westlock, Alberta
(780) 348-5308
rigney@clearwave.ca
Website: wsscattle.ca

Breeding Stock, Semen and Embryos available.

Merry Christmas

from the
Ontario Blonde d'Aquitaine Association

Congratulations to our 2018 Raffle Winners

1st Prize ~ \$2000 Cas Sheree Buchanan, Elmvale, ON

2nd Prize ~ \$1000 Voucher Nicholas Boyd, Guelph, ON

Thank you to everyone who sold and purchased tickets!



Thank you to our consignors, buyers, bidders, and attendees at the **18th Annual Cream of the Crop Sale**

Top Selling Female: **McGillis Acres Daisy 15D** ~ Consigned by Phyllis Dubeau, Purchased by John & Shirley Langstaff

Top Selling Bull: **Crystal Ferdinand 12F** ~ Consigned by Crystal Farms, Purchased by Pleasant Valley Blondes

People's Choice Award Winner: **McGillis Acres Daisy 15D** ~ Banners Sponsored by Acres Farms & Little Creek Farms



Thank you to all who attended the 2018 National Events hosted by the OBdAA!

SURVEY

INTEREST IN NEW PROGRAM

Hello Blonde breeders:

The CBDA Board has been discussing a program through which we would make top quality sires available to the membership via artificial insemination. While the exact details are yet to be worked out, the goal is to increase our overall breed quality in terms of conformation and performance traits.

Before moving too far in development we would like to gauge the interest that our breeders would have in a program such as this. Please read through the programs preliminary details, and then reply back to me after answering the questions at the bottom of the email.

- Bulls would be selected from Canadian Blonde herds - breeders would notify us if they had a top quality bull they think will fit the program
- Bulls must be from herds on the Blonde Performance Program (contact me to sign up) , and the bull must have a birth, weaning and yearling weights (the latter taken while on test)
- A selection committee would inspect and select bulls to go on a performance test in a central location(s)
- Selection for test would be based on overall structure/eye appeal, feet/legs, temperament, scrotal development, muscle, volume/depth of body, performance numbers/EPD's (as they become more accurate), quality of sire/dam (udders, temperament at calving, and all of the other things above)
- Once the performance test was completed the bulls would be evaluated again (criteria above), and a bull(s) possibly chosen for semen collection.
- Prior to any semen collection the bull would be parentage verified, and tested for all genetic defects that are known and testable.
- The ideal bull would have somewhat outcross bloodlines in order to maximize the potential use.
- Interested breeders would need to buy a minimum of 10 straws of semen @ \$25/straw = \$250 investment

QUESTIONS

Please answer as follows:

1 - very likely 2 - likely 3 - unlikely 4 - very unlikely

1. Would you participate in this program?
2. Would you participate if a Fullblood bull is chosen?
3. Would you participate if a Purebred bull is chosen?
4. Would you participate if a Polled bull is chosen?
5. Would you participate if a Horned bull is chosen?
6. How often would you participate in this program?
(choose one) Yearly, Every 2 Years - Every 3 years.

Please contact **Reed Rigney**, CBDA Secretary, with any further questions or to give your replies:
Email: rigney@clearwave.ca | Phone: 780-348-5308

THE **BLONDE** Connection

The official publication of the

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

Email: cbda@clrc.ca

Web: www.canadianblondeassociation.ca

PUBLISHER

The Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association

EDITOR / ART DIRECTOR

ANGELA MORASCH

Coyote Publishing

Phone: 403-793-7791

Box 1147 Bassano, Alberta T0J 0B0

Email: blondenews@coyotepublishing.ca

www.coyotepublishing.ca

**Our 2019 Issue
Comes Out
Next Spring
IN MARCH**

**ADVERTISE
with us Now!**



ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page (Full Colour)	400
1/2 Page	250
1/4 Page	150
1/8 Page	100

*All ads are printed in full colour only.

ADDITIONAL CHARGES

Production and ad copy changes are subject to extra charges. Taxes.

ADVERTISING BOOKING DEADLINE

January 28, 2019

ADVERTISING COPY DEADLINE

February 11, 2019

TERMS:

All accounts are due and payable as invoiced. Interest charges 2 percent per month (24% per annum) will be assessed to accounts 30 days past due. Please make cheques payable to The Canadian Blonde d' Aquitaine Association

WEST WIND BLONDES

Santa says...

Have a

MERRY
Christmas

and place your
semen order now
for spring breeding!



Want guaranteed polled Blonde Calves?
Order your homozygous polled fullblood semen from:

- West Winds Rainier 11R • West Winds Workman 94W
- West Winds Beau 9B • West Winds Breaker 36B

**Thank you to all Embryo Buyers,
we are now sold out of embryos.**

BLONDE D'AQUITAINE CATTLE | MYRNA FLESCH

EMAIL: westwind@cciwireless.ca | Box 334, Stavely, AB T0L 1Z0

Phone 403-549-2371 | www.westwindblondes.ca