Heartwood Farms

- Quality performance evaluated genetics for sale
- Good selection of bulls and females
- Several exceptional 2 yr old bulls
- Affordably priced and ready to work

Matt, Mary and Alex Unger
(705) 652-1201
heartwood@accel.net

Ontario Blonde d’Aquitaine Association

Annual General Meeting
Saturday, February 14, 2004
Rock Haven Motel & Convention Centre
Peterborough, Ontario

Agenda

1. 1:00 p.m. Call to Order
2. 1:10 p.m. Roll Call of Members
3. 1:20 p.m. Appointment of Scrutineers and Sergeant at Arms
4. 1:30 p.m. Minutes of the 2003 Annual General Meeting
5. 1:50 p.m. Unfinished Business
6. 2:00 p.m. Financial Statements
7. 2:20 p.m. Correspondence
8. 2:30 p.m. Reports
    8.1 President
    8.2 Promotions
    8.3 Performance
    8.4 Communications
    8.5 Youth
    8.6 Merchandise
    8.7 Cream of the Crop Sale
    8.8 Point shows and The Royal
    8.9 Advertising
9. 3:00 p.m. Speakers
10. 4:00 p.m. Presentation - President’s Cup
11. 4:10 p.m. Awards Presentation
12. 4:20 p.m. New Business
13. 4:50 p.m. Elections of the Board
    13.1 President
    13.2 Directors (3)
14. 5:00 p.m. Adjournment

Jackpot Heifer Competition

Class of 2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Placing 02</th>
<th>Placing 03</th>
<th>Total points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lavelaine Farms</td>
<td>CLHA 11M</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Star Farms</td>
<td>JAN 11M</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maple Valley Farms</td>
<td>MVF 51M</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilltop Orchard</td>
<td>HOF 16M</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Point Blondes</td>
<td>CHA 35M</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Star Farms</td>
<td>JAN 18M</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heartwood Farms</td>
<td>MAU 1M</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butternut Blondes</td>
<td>BKR 09M</td>
<td>8</td>
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Class of 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Placing</th>
<th>Total points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Lavelaine Farms</td>
<td>NLF 17N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lavelaine Farms</td>
<td>LEM 4N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lavelaine Farms</td>
<td>LEM 01N</td>
</tr>
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<td>Maple Valley</td>
<td>MVF 01N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Plas</td>
<td>NLF 12N</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holburn Farms</td>
<td>NLF 4N</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hilltop Orchard</td>
<td>HOF 2N</td>
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<tr>
<td>Franmar Farms</td>
<td>FAR 2N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilltop Orchard</td>
<td>HOF 21N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Point Blondes</td>
<td>CHA 37N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ontario Blonde d'Aquitaine Association

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13.1 President
13.2 Directors (3)
14. 5:00 p.m. Adjournment
Ontario Blonde d’Aquitaine Association  
Annual General Meeting  
Saturday, February 08, 2003  
Best Western Otonabee Inn, Peterborough, Ontario

1. CALL TO ORDER  
The President (Sheryl) called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL  
Sheryl named all the members that held voting privileges and the number of proxies carried by each member.

3. APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS AND SERGEANT AT ARMS  
Sheila McNevan and Cindy Leathy were appointed as scrutineers. Floyd Blackburn was appointed Sergeant at Arms.

4. MINUTES OF THE 2003 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
Sheryl read the minutes of the 2002 Annual General Meeting. The following errors or omissions were noted:

8.3 Performance Matt Unger had given an oral report.
9.0 President’s Cup The winner was Hanover HSF 9K and not Heartwood.
12.0 New Business  
12.1 Amendments to the Constitution  
The following words should be added after Three, directors shall be elected or appointed each year.

It was moved by Laverne McGee (Laverne) and seconded by John Robinson (John) that the minutes of the 2002 Annual General Meeting be accepted as amended. Carried.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS  
5.1 Youth - Competitive Edge Tape - The Board is in the process of obtaining the address from Matt where these tapes can be obtained so that a letter may be written inquiring into costs and availability.
5.2 Merchandise - Doug McVittie has been extremely busy this past year with his daughters and their riding. He has promised to provide the name of the supplier to us shortly.
5.3 Point Shows - Rules for Competition were included in the 2003 Annual General Meeting package and were to be printed in the newsletter.
5.4 Notice of Motion re fees - The Notice of Motion was presented at the Canadian Blonde d’Aquitaine Annual General Meeting by Sheryl. Also the Man-Sask Association has requested a copy of the motion at the Bull Test Sale with the information faxed to the AGM which Sheryl also presented. The Board looked upon the request favorably and the new rates were in effect as of July 01, 2002.
5.5 Special Class at The Royal - The Jackpot Heifer Class at the Royal was a great success with 10 animals participating. The rules were also included in the 2003 AGM package and were to be printed in the newsletter.

6. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
The Auditors’ Report for the year ended December 31, 2001 was read. 

2001 Financial Reviewer’s Report  
On this date, February 8, 2003, we should be presenting the “Financial Review” of the 2002 “Financial Statements”. Every organization that we have been a part of has always presented “a Financial Review of its books” the same year in which the “Financial Statements” are being presented. However, due to the Board’s unwillingness to cooperate, communicate and forward requested material in a timely fashion, we are presenting a “review” of the “2001 Financial Statement.”

As elected and appointed Examiners of the OBdA’s books, accounts and records, we feel that the Board has been very careless in their handling of these records. In addition, the Board prolonged providing the necessary documentation to perform the “review” for 10 months, which is extremely unprofessional in our opinion!

Lavelaine Farms  
TOP QUALITY POLLED GENETICS  
Halter Broke Yearling Bulls Available off of:

- Willow Creek Commander 26C
- West Winds Herdsman 32H
- Greenbrae’s Howie
- Roseneath Jethro WRB 2J
- Natur’s Topper 011C

as well as two other yearling bulls off of Lavelaine’s Mr. Farley 45F – the easiest calving bull we have ever used.

Laverne & Elaine McGee  
702 County Road 35, RR # 1 Campbellford ON K0L 1L0  
(705) 653-3160

ONTARIO BLONDE D’AQUITAINE ASSOCIATION  
2004 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PROXY  
Proxy eligibility: All members in good standing are entitled to vote at the Ontario Blonde d’Aquitaine Association’s Annual General Meeting. If you are unable to attend you may request another member in good standing to represent you and your vote. Each member is entitled to carry three (3) proxy votes. (Maximum 4 votes)

I, ____________________________________________________________, am unable to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Blonde d’Aquitaine Association on February 14, 2004 and hereby designate ______________________________________________ of ____________________________________________________________ (address) to represent me at this meeting.

_________________________________________  ________________
Signature  Date
At the 2000 Annual General Meeting, the membership unanimously passed the following By-Law:

"The books, accounts and records of the secretary/treasurer shall be examined at least once a year by two members of the Ontario Blonde d'Aquitaine Association, appointed by members at the Annual General Meeting."

At the 2001 Annual General Meeting, Bryan Durst and Rheo Machina were appointed “examiners of the books, accounts and records of this Association”. Rheo requested the material “to examine the 2001 books” in January 2002. At that time, the President mentioned, “the books are not done and they will be submitted to the AGM as a Draft Copy”. At the 2002 AGM in February, the “Financial Statements” were presented as a complete entity from January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2001. During the meeting, Rheo asked the President, “if the ‘examiners’ were going to get an opportunity to ‘examine’ the books?”. She replied, “the one ‘examiner’ has stepped down and when another member is found to take his place the books will be handed over”.

On May 2, 2002 Rheo submitted a letter to the Board that included Paul Diebel’s name who would volunteer to help perform the duty of a “Financial Reviewer”. After the Board’s early June meeting, the President contacted Rheo notifying him that Paul was approved by the Board as a “Financial Reviewer” and the books could be sent. Between June and July, Rheo sent numerous different email messages to the President and other Board members requesting the “books, accounts and records” relating to the “Financial Statements of 2001”.

Finally, on August 1, Rheo received a package from the President that contained photocopies of the material used to generate the “2001 Financial Statements - year ending December 31, 2001”. After briefly reviewing the material, Rheo noticed that the December bank statement, December cancelled cheques and invoices relating to the December cheques were not included! The President phoned that evening inquiring “whether Rheo received the books”? Rheo mentioned, he “did not see the December bank statement, December cancelled cheques and invoices relating to the December cheques”. The President replied, "I do not have them.”

On October 9, 2002 a fax was received from the Treasurer. It contained information relating to the December bank statement. However, it did not contain information relating to an “Accounts Payable” item named “Royal Winter Fair trucking”. This item was not mentioned in the Board minutes.

Although we are not professional “Auditors”, we did find the books to be accurate (other than no cheque reference to “Royal Winter Fair trucking”) as of December 31, 2001. We would like to make the following recommendations:

1) provide the complete documentation required to perform a “Financial Review” at least once a year as per the By-Laws,
2) communicate with the “Financial Reviewer”s,
3) have the General Ledger and Bank Statements together at all times, and
4) prepare a detailed draft of a Financial Report including Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable and Bank funds available, for each Board meeting.

We were appointed to assure the membership of the authenticity of the Association’s “Financial Statements”. We hope that the recommendations set forth within this report will be exercised so that we can perform the 2002 “Financial Review” within a month following this AGM.

Respectfully,

Paul Diebel
Rheo Machina
“Financial Reviewer’s of the 2001 books, accounts and records”
of the Ontario Blonde d’Aquitaine Association

Eldred King (Eldred) moved this correspondence be received at this Annual General Meeting and appointment of auditors be tabled to after the elections. Seconded by Matt Unger (Matt). Carried
The Treasurer (Darren) presented the financial statements for December 31, 2002 as follows:

### BALANCE SHEET

**Assets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$19,218</td>
<td>$17,246</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>1,350</td>
<td>3,298</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inventory</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,068</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,044</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Liabilities and Equities**

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current liabilities</td>
<td>$1,105</td>
<td>$2,234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Equities</strong></td>
<td>$18,963</td>
<td>$18,810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members' equity</td>
<td>$19,010</td>
<td>$18,910</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**INCOME STATEMENT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memberships &amp; registrations</td>
<td>$3,135</td>
<td>$4,279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members' auctions</td>
<td>2,566</td>
<td>1,775</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>3,184</td>
<td>3,783</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total revenue</td>
<td>8,885</td>
<td>10,837</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank charges</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>378</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior members and 4-H</td>
<td>1,205</td>
<td>1,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>618</td>
<td>962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter &amp; postage</td>
<td>653</td>
<td>634</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>2,477</td>
<td>2,794</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>1,413</td>
<td>2,699</td>
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<tr>
<td>Web-site</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>370</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td>11,750</td>
<td>14,508</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2002</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net profit</strong></td>
<td>$1,153</td>
<td>$4,732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Opening Equity</strong></td>
<td>18,810</td>
<td>19,963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Closing Equity</strong></td>
<td>$19,963</td>
<td>$19,963</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It was moved by Darren and seconded by David McNevan (David) that the Auditors' Report for the year ended December 31, 2001 and the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2002 be accepted. Carried.

8.7 **Cream of the Crop Sale**

*High selling Male: High Point Montana 14M, a January 2002 calf, consigned by High Point Blondes, Ray & Sharon Chambers, Bobcaygeon, ON, was purchased by Golden Mile Blondes, Murray and Marg McVety, Nestleton ON for $2950.*

*High selling Female: Young Crest Heidi Ho with her bull calf consigned by Young Crest Cattle Farms, Shawn & Bonnie Young sold to Brandtline Farms, Brad Turpin, Stirling, ON for $900.*

49 lots grossed $82,700 for a $1,688 average.

The 3rd Annual Cream of the Crop Sale is scheduled for Saturday, September 27th, 2003.

It was moved by Laverne and seconded by John that the report be accepted as presented. Carried.

8.8 **Point Shows and The Royal**

John gave a report on the shows and The Royal. There were good turnouts at Campbellford, Orono, Warworth and Lindsay. There had been quite a bit of discussion about going to The Royal, but in the end everyone pulled together and we had a Royal Show.

It was moved by Laverne and seconded by Matt that the report be accepted as presented. Carried.

8.9 **Advertising**

Dave gave a report on Advertising stating that the Ontario Association advertised 4 times in the Ontario Beef Farmer. This past year we did co-op ads with the Canadian Association with each association picking up 50% of the cost. There was a positive response from the Fall ad which showed 4 good well-muscled calves.

It was moved by Dave and seconded by Matt this report be accepted. Carried.

9. **PRESENTATION - PRESIDENT'S CUP**

The winner of the President's Cup for 2003 was RHEO Ladies Man 19L. The bull's stats were BW of 0, WG of 28.2, YG of 48.7, BF of 2, SC of 33, Frame of 7.3, and Ribeye of 16.4. Congratulations to MBRHEO Blondes.

10. **AWARD'S PRESENTATION**

John presented the award for Show Female YCC Lacie 4L to Laverne. Show Male Hilltop Orchard 3L was presented to Dave Allison.

The meeting adjourned for lunch.

11. **CANADIAN BLONDE D'AQUITAINE ASSOCIATION**

I am hopeful you have a good attendance at your meeting today and also that you have a good open, interchange of ideas.

The Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association has undertaken an Advertising Program that sees a cooperative approach between parent organization and the provinces. It is the aim of this program to maximize the available dollars and increase the number of publications with Blonde ads. The focus of the advertising is aimed at the commercial cattleman and targets the "terminal sire approach" to marketing Blondes.

The Board reduced the fees for registration of animals, in response to requests from the Ontario and Man-Sask Association, in an effort to encourage registration of more animals. This fee change was effective July 01.02. The anticipated rise in registrations did not occur. We had, however, a larger number of animals transferred in the year 2002 as compared to 2001. It must be recognized by the Membership that registrations and transfers are the lifeblood of the organization and without that revenue source, there are no funds with which to accomplish the goals set forward by your Canadian Board. This seems to be forgotten in the scheme of things. I am, therefore, encouraging you to register your Blonde offspring. The overall cow herd, particularly in Western Canada, was depleted in 2002 and it will not be too long before the market place is looking to increase the cow herd base. Those who have managed to hang onto their heifers should be well placed to take advantage of that market.
2002 winner - Rheo & Sharon Machina for Rheo Ladies Man 18L who had a beef builder index of 4256
2001 winner - Matthew Unger for HSF6K who had a beef builder index of 4599

It was moved by Murray and seconded by Dave the report be accepted as presented. Carried.

At this time Cindy from BIO gave a short talk to those present. She indicated that some breeds are using their summer picnics as a way to ultrasound their animals. People are bringing animals to the picnic and BIO is present to do the ultrasound. This way the cost is spread out and not that expensive for any one person. Also she indicated that "we don't know what we are producing". We require more information back from the packing plants and we should be lobbying to get this information. Cindy also answered several questions from those present.

8.4 Communications
The following report was read from the AGM package:
All efforts are being made to have the newsletter published on a regular basis. We all agree that the Newsletter is one of the best way of communicating with all our members on what is happening. The format changed a little in the last newsletter, and it is trusted that format worked well for everyone. With Matt Unger's help, we now have a mailing list of a little more than 225 individuals. Communications have been going on with the Web designer hoping to add several features including a bulletin board so members can list animals for sale, etc. It was suggested that maybe it is necessary to pay for good photos we can use on the Website and in advertising.

It was moved by Sheryl and seconded by Dave that the report be accepted as presented. Carried.

8.5 Youth
The following 4-H members showed a Blonde d'Aquitaine animal for their 2002 4-H Beef Club project:
Bill Blackburn Andrew Bunda William Bunda
Tanja Boyd Kye Creen Carrie Dunham
Jennifer Durham Joanne Durham Sarah Jewell
Daniel Johnston Simon Lackey K.C. Leaver
Kris Pias Taylor Plassett Nicholas Lubitz
Lisa Schwurr Katie Secord Katherine Vink
Rachel Vink Matt Walker Melinda Wilmann
Crystal Young

These members have had their 2002 4-H fee reimbursed by the Ontario Blonde d'Aquitaine Association. We look forward to seeing these 4-H'ers in 2003.

It was moved by Darren and seconded by Dave that the report be accepted as given. Carried.

8.6 Merchandise
After the 2002 Annual General Meeting, the only merchandise the Association has now are baseball hats and halters. A survey will be conducted in an upcoming newsletter for feedback from members on merchandise they would like to see us carry. We will also be in touch with various suppliers to see if merchandise can be purchased in small numbers without having to purchase a minimum order.

It was moved by Darren and seconded by John that this report be accepted. Carried.

7. CORRESPONDENCE
A fax was received from Rheo Machina. The fax read as follows:
Over the past two years, we have voiced our concerns about the lack of recognition and support that Blonde Performance members have received from OBdA. Not only have the Blonde Newsletters featured more information and reports regarding "shows", the latest ad in the Ontario Beef Farmer featured a 1/4 page colour ad with 14 photos of "show champions" from the 2002 Royal.

On the other side of the coin, when was the last time an Ontario Newsletter or an ad featured the "Top Performance animal" in Ontario? When was the last time a Performance report was printed in a Newsletter? The Newsletter even neglected to include a Performance report from last year's AGM!

We have initiated the following "amendment" so that performance members are treated equally with show members. Should this amendment be voted in favour, then this will imply that the membership does wish to treat Performance members with the same respect as Show members.

Respectfully,
Rheo Machina

The Proposed Amendment was:
We, the undersigned, would like to propose the following amendment: add item d) to ARTICLE I, Section 2.

ARTICLE I - Name and Objective
2. The aims and objectives of the Association shall be:
   a) to promote and encourage the breeding of Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle in the province of Ontario;
   b) to arrange for, and promote shows and sales of Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle in the province of Ontario;
   c) to assist, where possible, the Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine Association in their promotion of the Blonde of Aquitaine breed;
   d) to promote and encourage performance testing of Blonde d'Aquitaine cattle in the province of Ontario.

Paul Diebel
Rheo Machina
Ontario Blonde d'Aquitaine Association Members

It was moved by Murray and seconded by Mike Henry (Mike) that the Board accept this proposed amendment and it be dealt with at the 2004 Annual General Meeting and serve as a notice for the 2004 Annual General Meeting.

Shawn Young (Shawn) received a letter from Shawn Young (Shawn) and was read by John as follows:

TO THE MEMBERS AND BOARD OF THE BLONDE d' AQUITAINE ASSOCIATION. I WOULD LIKE TO APOLOGIZE FOR NOT COMPLETING MY TERM ON THE BOARD. IT WAS NOT A EASY ONE OR DID NOT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE PRICE I RECEIVED FOR AN ANIMAL AS WAS RUMOURED. THIS BOARD DID A GREAT JOB IN MY ABSENCE AND I DO THANK THEM. I ALWAYS UNDERSTOOD THAT A BOARD WAS TO WORK TOGETHER AS A TEAM AND NOT AS INDIVIDUAL. BOARD MEMBERS SHOULD PUT THE BREED FIRST AND CERTAINLY BEFORE THEMSELVES. I WOULD ENCOURAGE VOTERS TO VOTE FOR THE BEST PERSON AND MAYBE NOT A BUDDY. THIS BREED NEEDS GOOD DIRECTION IN THE UP COMING YEARS AND GOOD RELIABLE LEADERS. THIS IS A GOOD CHANCE FOR NEW MEMBERS TO TAKE A SPOT ON THE BOARD.

IN CLOSING I WOULD LIKE TO THANK JOHN FOR THE FUN I HAD EITHER ATTENDING A FAIR SHOW OR A FARM SHOW WORKING A DISPLAY, EVEN IF HE CAN NEVER REMEMBER HOW TO GET TO ANY PLACE A SECOND TIME.

THE MEMBERSHIP NEEDS TO KNOW THAT THEIR PRESIDENT WORKED HARDER THAN ANYONE ELSE, AND PROBABLY DID MORE THAN SHE SHOULD OF. I THANK HER FOR UNDERSTANDING MY SITUATION AND SUPPORTING IT AND TO ALL OF YOU FOR GIVING YOUR TIME OUT OF YOUR MEETING TO HAVE THIS LETTER READ.

SINCERELY,
SHAWN YOUNG
8. REPORTS

8.1 President’s

The President’s message as written in the 2003 AGM package:

What a year! With the drought hitting the West so hard, it was great to hear about fellow Blonde breeders providing hay for the West. Then the terrible news of Lyle and Robin Hamman completely losing their home and all their personal belongings to fire. Again the rallying by Blonde breeders across Canada showed what a great group of breeders we are as donations of various kinds were made to the Hammers.

Thank you to all those who turned out to the 2002 Annual General Meeting, and to those present today.

The show circuit in the East was a great success; unfortunately we have lost the point shows in the West. The royal was well attended with many breeders showing. I believe everyone had a great time and social time went over very well. All indications are we will be there again this year.

There were blondes at several test stations in 2002 with the animals competing quite well against other breeds. Thank you to those breeders who have put animals in these tests.

The 2nd Cream of the Crop Sale was well attended with quality animals being offered for sale. This is one way for the association to raise funds. Thank you to all the consignors and bidders.

At this time I would like to thank the Board for their support. There may have been times when we all did not see eye to eye on an issue, but we have always been able to work out the differences and continue.

I thank my family, Floyd and Bill, for all their support. Without you guys this job and my undertakings in the Ontario Blonde Association would not happen. Thank you for your input and hard work on assisting me.

All the best to everyone in the calving season and I hope to see everyone at the 2004 Annual General Meeting.

The President then gave the following address:

The President’s message is usually directed towards the past year and its events and happenings. I have written a message in the Annual Meeting package that everyone can read about the past year. I have also tried to prepare my President’s messages for the newsletter based on reflections of activities that have occurred.

This year I am setting out in my message what I would like the Association to be able to accomplish this year and also in the next five years. Actually this challenge was put forward to me on Thursday night by a Past President of this Association.

I am challenging each and everyone of you to come up with a vision for the future for this Association. It is time we all looked to the future instead of the past. We have to build on the past, but let us look forward.

In one of the upcoming newsletters I would like to see a survey go out to the members that will make them think about their operations and the future of the breed. This survey will have some real pointed questions for your consideration and thought. With Bob Thomas’s assistance this survey will be very hard hitting.

Then I would like to see Regional meetings (as determined by the maps in the Directory) held in the summer with breeders to find a common ground to move this breed forward.

This is a great breed. It is gaining momentum in Europe. It is now time for it to gain momentum in North America.

Together we can move forward and accomplish great things.

It was moved by Sheryl and seconded by Murphy Bailer (Murphy) that the report be adopted as presented. Carried.

8.2 Promotions

This report that was included in the AGM package:

This year the Ontario Blondes have manned booths at the Ottawa Valley Farm Show, Hastings County Plowing Match and Farm Show, Canada’s Outdoor Farm Show, and the International Plowing Match. A huge thank you goes out to all who helped man the booths and promote the breed.

It was mentioned that the Board is looking into the possibility of having a booth at the Peterborough Farm Show which is on March 5th and 6th.

It was moved by John and seconded by Mike the report be accepted as presented. Carried.

8.3 Performance

Matt presented the Performance report as follows:

This year, there are a total of 62 Blonde bulls on test across Ontario. The following is a list of Blonde breeders who have bulls at serious test centres. Contact BIO at 1-800-373-2253 for more information, or to request copies of test centre reports.

Douglas #1 (9)
- Ferme A & L Cyr
- Jessup Farms (1)
- Galbraith Blonde Farm (1)
- Echo Pond Farm (1)
- Crystal Farms (3)
- Van Baale blondes (1)

Lambton County #1 (2)
- Ferme A & L Cyr (2)
- Ferme Super C (1)
- Galbraith Blonde Farms (2)
- Hardy Creek Blondes (1)

Oxford County (7)
- MBRHEO Cattle Co. (2)
- Heartwood Farms (4)
- Wade Spitzke (1)

Heartwood Farms (19)
- Heartwood Farms (17)

Total number of Blonde bulls on test:
- 2002-2003: 62
- 2001-2002: 45
- 2000-2001: 33
- 1999-2000: 28

The Ultimate Blonde Bull Competition

2003 - There are a total of 11 Blonde Bulls entered in the Ultimate Blonde Bull competition. These bulls are currently on supervised test at bull test centres across Ontario. Upon completion of the various tests, BIO will combine performance and ultrasound data to calculate EPDs. The EPDs will be used to determine the Ultimate Blonde Bull. These bulls will be competing for monetary prizes in 2003. The following breeders have entered bulls in this years competition.

- Andre & Linda Cyr
- John & Beth Ferrier
- Rheo & Sharon Machina
- Robert McKindy
- Matthew Unger
- Bill Van Baale

2002 - Winners

1st place Heartwoods Ladyman 78L - purchased by Gary Hadwyn and is now herd sire at Cedar View Farms, Cavan

2nd place Heartwoods Lover 73L - purchased by Gary Brennan, Norwich

3rd place Rheo Ladies Man 18L - working at MBRHEO Cattle Co.

The Presidents’ Cup Award

The President’s Cup is awarded annually to the breeder of the yearling Blonde bull with the highest performance on test. This cup was donated in 1995 by a group of past presidents of the Ontario Blonde d’Aquiline Association. They were D.D. “Doug” Lemon, A.L. “But” Hill, R.F. “Bub” Thomas, and Judge J.L. Glendenning.
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C/o any Board member

Canadian Livestock Records Corporation
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www.clrc.ca

Saskatchewan Research Council (SRC)
15 Innovation Road
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7N 2X6
(306) 933-7700

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
www.gov.on.ca/OMAFRA

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
www.agr.gc.ca

2003 Royal Agricultural Winter Fair

Class 1 - Bull Calf
1. Beau Bois Norbert 4N
2. Maple Valley Norbert 6N
3. Lavelaine’s Knight Rider 14N
4. Norlock Nijoe
5. Vaupre Niles 3N
6. Enstone Napoleon
7. High Point Pollad Nash
8. VHJ Ironside 25N
9. High Point Northern Star

Class 2
Champion Bull Calf - Beau Bois Norbert 4N
Reserve - Lavelaine’s Knight Rider 14N

Class 3 - Yearling Bull - Apr 01/02-Dec 31/02
1. Hilltop Orchard Monopoly 40M
2. Butternut Merlyn
3. High Point Molson
4. Hilltop Orchard Maxine 5F
5. Norlock Mr Mort 17M
6. Maple Valley Maestro 13M
7. Champion Junior - Norlock Mr Mort 17M
8. Maple Valley Maestro 13M
9. Class 6 - Bull born in 2002
1. Hilltop Orchard Legend 10L
2. Champion Senior - Hilltop Orchard Legend 10L

Class 4 - Yearling Bull - Jan 01/02-Mar 31/02
1. Butternut Meredith
2. High Point Noni
3. Maple Valley Notion 01N

Class 5 - Senior Showperson (18 - 21)
1. Bill Blackburn
2. Lavelaine’s Miss Nottie Girl
3. Lavelaine’s Northern Girl
4. Franmar Miss Natalie
5. Franmar Miss Natalie
6. Drive Point Panette
7. High Point Nancey
8. Champion Heifer Calf-Maple Valley Notion 01N
9. Reserve - Norlock Nickie 4N
10. Norlock Miss Monique 5M
11. Vaupre Margaret 5M
12. Vaupre Margaret 5M
13. Butternut Meredith
14. High Point Lavelaine Monique
15. Hilltop Orchard Melody 16M

NEW!!!
Canadian National Newsletter
The Canadian Blonde d’Aquitaine Association are planning to publish a National newsletter by the end of February.

The following are the advertising rates:

**Business Card** ........................................  $25.00
1/4 page ........................................  $25.00
1/2 page ........................................  $50.00
Full page ........................................  $90.00
Add $15 for picture scans

**RESERVE YOUR SPACE TODAY!!**

RESERVE YOUR SPACE TODAY!!
Holburn Farms has been in the Blonde business for 10 years. In that time, we have worked hard to build a herd that we are very proud of.

Charles and Duke Cassidy have seen first hand what animals produced at Holburn Farms can do in a herd. The Cassidy’s have a small family farm with a wide variety of cattle ranging from Blondes, Angus, Simmental, Herefords, Charolais, Shorthorns, Salers and crosses. With all these cows however they decided to use a Blonde bull, which coincidentally came from Holburn Farms. Not only did a Blonde bull bring such desirable attributes such as ease of calving and stellar performance numbers, the bull also helped contribute to the fact that the offsprings top the sale at Hoard’s Station on a regular basis.

Rick Cassidy, a brother to Charles, also runs a small cow/calf operation of mainly Herefords made the same decision to purchase a Blonde bull, Holburn Lots of Beef 02L again from Holburn Farms. Rick also tops the sales at Hoard’s Station.

Again this year the same bulls are in their herds working their magic. During these trying times in the beef industry, we ask you to consider whether you can afford to be without the best.

At Holburn Farms we pride ourselves in striving to be the best and offer the best animals possible. We would like to extend an invitation to one and all to stop by whenever possible and see what we have to offer you and the beef industry as a whole.

Always being offered for sale, bulls and females of all ages, at the farm just 10 km north of Highway 7 on Highway 62.

Holburn Farms
Floyd, Sheryl & Bill Blackburn
16354 Hwy 62, Eldorado
613-473-4914

Del Merrill - Merleson Farms
Campbellford Ontario

After a lengthy illness, we were saddened by the passing of a dear friend and long time member of the Blonde d’Aquitaine Association. Del and Diane worked hard to maintain and keep a top-notch, quality herd of blonde cattle that any breeder would be proud to own. We will always remember Del’s sense of humour and witness. He will be missed. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Diane and family.

Lavene McGee