



OVHC NEWS



OTTAWA VALLEY HEREFORD CLUB NEWSLETTER March 2009

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, OTTAWA VALLEY HEREFORD CLUB, SPRING 2009

Thank you to the newly elected Board of Directors for returning me as President of the Ottawa Valley Hereford Club.

As has happened Nationally the number of Hereford breeders in the Ottawa Valley has been getting less and less. It is my understanding that there are approximately 1000 Hereford breeders Nationally at this time. These are the people that are registering cattle. There are a great number of cattle people that have Hereford cattle and Hereford influence cattle that do not register their animals that help keep our breed alive. We are not alone; other breeds are experiencing the same situation.

As most of you are aware I did not let my name stand as the Ottawa Valley Representative on the Ontario Hereford Association Board of Directors. Laura Cox was elected to the position at the Ottawa Valley Hereford Annual Meeting and I am sure she will do a great job and represent us very well. Laura attended the Ontario Annual General Meeting in Peterborough on Feb 28 and 29th.

I also attend the meeting in Peterborough; along with meeting with other breeders from across the province we also had two very interesting presentations, one on the Corn Fed Beef program and the second by Gordon Stephenson, our CHA General Manager giving an update on major activities at the CHA. John Mastine, one of our Ontario Reps at the CHA, unfortunately resigned his position due to personal reasons. Therefore, the position became vacant for the last 2 years of a 3-year term. I allowed my name to stand, and after an election was successful in filling the position. I am looking forward to the new challenge.

One of our new OVHC directors, Hugh Brownlee, has taken on a project to help better understand the needs and requirements of our Zone members. Hugh and his committee will be contacting you and asking a few questions that will provide the needed information to help our members better our breed in the Ottawa Valley. The results of this project will be shared with you when completed.

As you read through the newsletter you will see that we are planning several events throughout the year. We would hope that you would participate and support these activities. Especially the Twilight Meeting, this is always a fun time where we meet our fellow Hereford Breeders and there is no pressure to compete.

Hope you are having a good calving season and lucky enough to be getting more females than we are.

Sincerely
Burt Grundy,
President.

PICK OF THE VALLEY SALE

The OVHC will be hosting the Pick of the Valley Sale on Monday, October 12 at the Carp fairgrounds again this year. The OVHC works hard to provide this marketing venue for your Herefords at a very reasonable sale commission. Look over the females in your herd to see if there is something that you would like to consign. The Selection Committee will be previewing the sale cattle in July. Photos, pedigree information and comments for the sale catalogue will be due by the end of July. If you are interested in consigning call us soon:

Sheila James 613-253-7028, Burt Grundy 613-489-3136, Brent Palsson 613-256-7053

NOMINATION OF HEIFER

\$2500 for your bred yearling heifer or heifer calf. The OVHC will again be offering the Pick of the Valley membership draw. Tickets will be sold for the heifers in this draw for \$50 per membership. The heifer will also be consigned in the Pick of the Valley Sale and preapproved by the Pick of the Valley Selection Committee. At the commencement of the Pick of the Valley Sale, one membership ticket will be randomly drawn. The person whose membership ticket is drawn will win the heifer of their choice from all the heifers that had been entered in this membership drive. The breeder that consigned the chosen heifer will be given \$2500 from the OVHC. Contact: Burt Grundy 613-489-3136, Sheila James 613-253-7028 for further details.

TWILIGHT MEETING

The Twilight Meeting for 2009 will be held on Sunday, July 26th at 2:00 p.m. at KippenHame Farms, the home of Janet and Hugh Brownlee. The farm is located at 169 Kippen Road, one concession northwest from the village of White Lake.

Bring an item for the potluck supper (salads or dessert...hamburgers and hot dogs provided), your refreshments and chairs. A swimming pool will be available for those wishing to take a dip, so bring your swimming duds and a towel. A pasture tour, walks in their old growth White Pine forest and horseshoes will also be available.

White Lake is ~12Km southwest of Arnprior on White Lake Road, making access from 417 easy for those travelling from the south. Kippen Road is the last turn to the right off White Lake Road before you reach White Lake (~11KM from Arnprior). Call for directions if the 417 is not your most convenient access.

If the weather is inclement, we have lots of indoor room, so don't let the weather discourage you.

You can reach Janet or Hugh at 613-623-7948.

Everyone's invited to this event, You don't have to have Herefords to attend.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

At a recent meeting, the club's Board the Directors authorized a survey of the OVHC membership. The purpose of the survey is to ensure that the clubs future activities reflect as much as possible the needs of the membership and friends.

There are three themes to the survey. First, we're hoping to learn more about your own herd and your thinking about future plans for the Hereford breed. Second, we want to solicit your opinions on the value of the services provided from the Canadian Hereford Association, Ontario Hereford Association and of course, our Ottawa Valley Hereford Club. Third, as we are all feeling challenged by today's beef environment, we also want to gather your opinions on what your needs are, to help us shape club programs such as the "Pick of the Valley Sale" introduced in 2008.

The survey will be administered by telephone by Hugh Brownlee, one of our new Directors, from March 15th to April 15th. Your participation is of course voluntary and individual responses will be treated as confidential (unless you authorize otherwise). When Hugh calls, we hope you agree to participate. As the survey takes approximately 15 minutes to complete, if the call comes at an inconvenient time, Hugh will be glad to schedule an appropriate time for a call back.

The membership and friends will receive a summary report on the results of the survey and any preliminary club actions in a subsequent newsletter.

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

Dear Ottawa Valley Junior Hereford Member:

We are gearing up for a very exciting year. To start the year off, I would like to invite you to the.....

Ottawa Valley Hereford Twilight Meeting

and

Ottawa Valley Junior Hereford Twilight Meeting

Sunday July 26, 2009

2:30 p.m. — 6:00 p.m.

Kippenhame Farms (hosts - Hugh and Janet Brownlee)

169 Kippen Road, White Lake, Ontario

The Brownlee's have offered their swimming pool for entertainment, bring your swimsuits!

Potluck for Salads and Dessert only (meat provided)

During the afternoon we will chat about upcoming fairs that sponsor the junior shows, fundraising ideas and socializing. Our goal for this afternoon is to meet and greet with fellow Hereford owners.

Please invite your parents

Please RSVP to Jennifer Hess, 613-489-2947 or jdm@magma.ca

Sincerely

Jennifer Hess

Ottawa Valley Junior Hereford Adult Advisor, Zone 5

WEB SITE OF OVHC

The Ottawa Valley Hereford Club is offering a lasting way to promote your farm and cattle. Contact their webmaster, Jim McCuaig (gvm@rogers.com) for details and pricing.

UPDATE INFORMATION will be placed on the OVHC web site as it becomes available.
www.ottawaherefords.com

ZONE Shows and MARK OF EXCELLENCE Show

The Ottawa Valley Hereford Club Zone Shows will be held in conjunction with Arnprior Fair on August 8 at Noon and the Stormont County Fair - Newington on September 6 at 1:00 pm

Mark of Excellence Show will be held at the Renfrew Fair on Saturday, September 12 at 12:30 pm.

The winning entries from these shows will be eligible for the points awarded in determining the Top Female Animal and Top Male Animal from the Valley Awards presented at the Annual meeting.