



# The Glengarry Moos



Glengarry's Favourite 'Moos'letter

**WINTER 2010**

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Kissing under the mistletoe, our favourite sprig of green leaves and white berries, dates back to a 17th century English custom. At that time, a berry was removed every time a kiss was made, which meant there were no kisses when there no berries. We seem to have since forgotten about the berry removal - allowing us to fully concentrate on the kissing!

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## MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

2010 was a busy year for the Glengarry Cattlemen's Association with a long list of accomplishments such as the summer tour of Vermont, the visit from the Peterborough County Cattlemen, and our entry into Alexandria's Canada Day Parade.

Please join us at our 2011 Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, January 22 at 10 am at the Alexandria Pizzeria Restaurant as we make decisions that will impact our next busy year. Lunch will be provided.

Rick Hobbs, Ontario Cattlemen Board of Director representing the Cow/Calf sector will be our guest speaker. He will deliver OCA's year in review report along with OCA's plans going forward.

Rick and his wife, Chris have taken value added to a whole new level with their Hobbs Family Meats and Bakery store located on their farm in Ashton. We will take this opportunity to quiz him on what this venture has taught him.



Nancy Noecker of OMA-FRA will also be on hand to highlight provincial programs with her usual flair as well as scrutineer the elections of the 2011 Glengarry Cattlemen Board of Directors.

## PRODUCER PROFILE—GIFFORD AND CATHY McNAUGHTON

Gifford and Cathy McNaughton had a 1/2 blood Simmental cow by the name of Buttercup in 1982 that was so exceptional that she convinced them to convert their mixed breed herd into the outstanding registered pure bred herd of Simmental cows that they now own.

The McNaughtons also appreciated the predict-

able breeding results gained from using pure-bred Simmentals, and focused on recorded breeding values (EPD's) to focus on milk and maternal traits.

The bulk of their 75 cows calve between December and March, although they also do some fall calving. They tie their replacement heifers in the converted dairy barn to socialize

them.

Selling quality breeding stock was the back bone of their business before BSE, but they now sell their stockers to a commercial feedlot. "We still register our animals believing that it would get better," said Cathy, "and we are starting to get some traffic in the yard again over the last 18 months."



**The average beef cow herd size in Canada is 61. There are a lot of small cattle farms.**

- 61% of the farms have 19% of the beef cows and each of these farms has less than 47 cows
- 26% of the farms have 33% of the beef cows and each of these farms has between 47 and 122 cows
- 13% of the farms have 48% of the beef cows and each of these farms has over 122 cows

(Statistics Canada 2006)



## **DIRT ROADS**—Written by Lee Pitts broadcast by Paul Harvey

What's mainly wrong with society today is that too many Dirt Roads have been paved.

There's not a problem in America today, that wouldn't be remedied, if we just had more Dirt Roads, because Dirt Roads give character. People that live at the end of Dirt Roads learn early on that life is a bumpy ride.

That it can jar you right down to your teeth sometimes, but it's worth it, if at the end is home...a loving spouse, happy kids and a dog.

We wouldn't have near the trouble with our educational system if our kids got their exercise walking a Dirt Road with other kids, from whom they learn how to get along.

There was less crime in our streets before they were paved. Criminals didn't walk two dusty miles to rob or

pillage, if they knew they'd be welcomed by 5 barking dogs and a double barrel shotgun.

And there were no drive by shootings. Our values were better when our roads were worse!

People did not worship their cars more than their kids, and motorists were more courteous, they didn't tailgate by riding the bumper or the guy in front would choke you with dust & bust your windshield with rocks.

Dirt Roads taught patience. Dirt Roads were environmentally friendly you didn't hop in your car for a quart of milk you walked to the barn for your milk. For your mail, you walked to the mail box.

What if it rained and the Dirt Road got washed out? That was the best part, then you stayed home and had some family time, roasted marshmallows and popped

popcorn and pony rode on Daddy's shoulders and learned how to make prettier quilts than anybody.

At the end of Dirt Roads, you soon learned that bad words tasted like soap.

Paved roads lead to stress and danger. Dirt Roads more likely lead to a fishing creek or a swimming hole.

At the end of a Dirt Road, the only time we even locked our car was in August, because if we didn't some neighbor would fill it with too much zucchini.

At the end of a Dirt Road, there was always extra springtime income, from when city dudes would get stuck, you'd have to hitch up a team and pull them out.

Usually you got a dollar... always you got a new friend... at the end of a Dirt Road.

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## **BEEF AND PORK PARTNER FOR RISK MANAGEMENT**

The last five years have been tough for Ontario's pork and beef farmers. The downturn is the result of several factors including BSE, H1N1, and a high Canadian dollar, bringing increased competition from imports. The current AgriStability program wasn't designed to protect local farmers from the kind of prolonged crisis we are now experiencing. Understanding this, Ontario Pork and Ontario Cattlemen's Association have consult their members and come together to design a new risk management insurance program for their sectors based on the successful program recently implemented by the Ontario Government for Grains and Oilseeds farmers. These proposed insurance programs would protect against market fluctuations and would allow all partners (participating farmers and both levels of government) to share and limit the risk while bringing much needed stability, predictability and bankability to their respective industries. We are calling on the provincial and federal governments to partner with Ontario's pork and beef farmers on this important initiative. We encourage you to support Ontario Pork and Ontario Cattlemen's Association's proposed risk management program by talking to your MP and your MPP.

## VALUE ADDED CALF CLUBS

OCA has launched a Feeder Calf Enhancement Project to foster the development of calf clubs throughout Ontario. The goals of these calf clubs are to increase the number of preconditioned calves in more special calf sales which means increased income for producers and the improved reputation of Ontario calves.

Large lots of preconditioned calves raised under specific, verifiable protocols will attract buyers. In addition to enhanced marketing opportunities, there is potential for clubs to purchase inputs in bulk and realize savings through the formation of buyer's

groups within each club. Beginning in 2010 and running for four years, OCA will provide funding to hold meetings throughout the province to gauge interest and to then to hold further meetings to facilitate the development of new calf clubs or refer producers to existing calf clubs. Initially, OCA will target producers who participated in the Age Verification program, but everyone is welcome. We will work with all stakeholders – producers, county associations, veterinarians, auction markets, breed associations, OMAFRA's Beef Team, and Beef Improvement Opportunities.

We envision making educational opportunities available to club members, not unlike those provided by the Large Herd Operators group in the dairy industry.

None of these ideas are new. However, OCA is there to offer direction, motivation, and support at the local level. Eventually we hope to see sustainable calf clubs throughout the province. While Glengarry does not presently have a calf club, we are investigating the potential of forming a club. Please call any director of the Glengarry Cattlemen's Association if you are interested in participating.



**83,000**  
Farms and  
Ranches with  
Beef Cattle  
Statistics Canada  
2006

**13.015 million**  
Total Cattle and  
Calves  
(includes 1.44  
million dairy  
cattle)

## Beef it Up! Festive Oriental Meatballs

The tangy flavour of the sauce will agree with everyone. Make the meatballs ahead and freeze.

### Meatballs

1 lb Lean ground beef  
1 large egg  
1 tsp Worcestershire sauce  
¼ c finely chopped onion  
½ c sour cream  
½ c fine bread crumbs  
¾ tsp salt, ¼ tsp Pepper  
Sweet and Sour sauce

2/3 c brown sugar,  
packed  
3 tbsp cornstarch  
2 tsp Dry Mustard  
1 c Pineapple juice  
½ c white vinegar  
½ c ketchup  
½ c water  
½ tsp soy sauce

**Meatballs:** Mix all ingredients into bowl well. Shape into 1 inch balls. Arrange on baking sheet. Bake in 350dF oven for 15 min.

### Sweet and Sour

**Sauce:** Stir brown sugar, cornstarch and mustard together in sauce pan. Stir in Pineapple juice. Add vinegar, ketchup, water and soy sauce. Heat and stir until it boils and thickens. Sauce can be served separately for dipping or can be poured over meatballs. Makes 64 meatballs.

**4.47 million**  
Beef Cows  
Statistics Canada  
2010



**Glengarry Cattlemen 's  
Association 2010 Board  
of Directors**

- Dick VanderByl 525-3409
- Ian Howes 528-1596
- Wendy McPherson 525-9976
- Ian MacLennan 874-2385
- Walter McIntosh 528-4694
- Wendy Beswick 874-2726
- Harold Norman 346-2259
- Rudie Vanderbyl 525-2951
- Heinz Hess 346-1695
- Joey Vanderbyl 525-2757
- Keith Wells 931-2485

**ATTENTION TO ALL LOCAL BEEF PRODUCERS!!**

*Looking to join an organization to keep abreast of issues affecting your operation and networking with other producers in your area?*

*Benefits of Joining*

*Networking with other producers in Glengarry*

*Staying abreast of issues facing the Ontario Beef industry*

*Give direction to OCA and initiate change*

*Organize successful events in your community*

*Get involved with other Glengarry events and organizations*

*The Glengarry Cattlemen's Association meets on the 1st or 2nd Thursday night of every month at 8:00 pm.*

*Alexandria Pizzeria Restaurant .*

**We're on the Web!!**

[www.cattle.guelph.on.ca](http://www.cattle.guelph.on.ca)



**MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS  
BE FILLED WITH  
BRIGHT AND SHINING  
MOMENTS TO CHERISH  
FOR YEARS TO COME.  
MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR  
FROM THE  
GLENGARRY  
CATTLEMEN  
ASSOCIATION**



**Ontario  
Cattlemen's  
Association**

*Committed to Cattlemen*