

# *The Lincoln Letter*

Publisher-North American Lincoln Red Association

Fall 2009

## **From the President:**

The summer of 2009 has not warmed up for many of us in Canada to date. We have had a cool, wet spring which delayed spring planting and getting the cattle out to pasture for us by three weeks. As result of the cool and wet spring weather in the past few years, we have made a conscious decision to back off our breeding dates to have cows calving next year in mid-May. We sincerely hope that our herd is out on pasture by then!

As weaning approaches, this is a good time to analyze the productivity of your cow herds. You may notice that some of the older cows are falling later and later into the calving season. Quite often these cows have lost many teeth and cannot keep in good body condition to raise a strong calf. Mobility, especially late in pregnancy, can become challenging for many of these older girls as poor hoof conformation and arthritis take over. Tough decisions will need to be made on the length of time that these cows should have a spot in your herds.

We hope that everyone has had a good calving season. All breeders are encouraged to contact the Association if you have breeding stock for sale or trade. Diversifying the bloodlines in our herds is an important step to ensure the long-term and continued success of the Lincoln Red breed in North America.

Scott McClinchey



**Visit our website at [www.lincolnred.org](http://www.lincolnred.org)**

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## **2009 Annual Meeting October 24, 2009**

**Where:** Stonehedge Farms  
John, Lorraine & Nick Ashby  
RR 2 4431 Ashby Road  
Prescott, ON KOE ITO

**When:** 1:00 p.m. (Ontario Time)

**Telephone:** 613-925-5778

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the annual meeting. Following the meeting John and Lorraine will give a farm tour. Lincoln Red ear tags will also be available for purchase.

If you cannot attend in person, a teleconference number will be provided so everyone can still participate. The teleconference number will be included in your meeting packet that will be mailed to you soon. The agenda is still being prepared. If you have an item you would like to add, please contact the Secretary Sarah Pedelty.  
(See Sarah's contact info is on the last page.)

### **Directions:**

**By Train:** Arrive in Brockville, Ontario. The train station is only 20 minutes away - very convenient. Brockville is on the main rail line between Montreal and Toronto. Someone will come pick you up.

**By Airline:** Arrive in Ottawa. Transportation has been arranged. Try to co-ordinate arrival times for pick-up by van.

**By Road:** Highway 401 - Take 401 to exit 705. Go north on Maitland-Merrickville road to flashing light. Turn right (east) to Blue Church road. Turn left (north) and follow to the end of the road. Turn left (west) on to Lords Mills road and follow until the end of that road. Lords Mills turns right at some point and the rest of the straight road becomes Ashby road. We live at the end of that road. The civic address is 4431 Ashby Road. We live in the brick bungalow. We will put out signs to help.

# CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Bill and Brigitte Reid and family on the birth of their new daughter Aneka who was born on May 11, 2009!

# Welcome!

Cedar Ridge Lincoln Reds would like to welcome Marc and Donna Dupuis, Melbourne, ON as the newest breeders of Lincoln Red cattle.

Sincerely,  
Bill and Brigitte Reid

**Visit the Lincoln Red Website at ...**  
[www.lincolnred.org](http://www.lincolnred.org)

The Association would like to extend a big thank you to Mr. Chris Carlson for putting together the website. Mr. Carlson has donated his creative talents and time to make our website a reality. Thank you.

If you have internet access, please take a look at the website. It is always being changed and updated. For those of you with out internet access we have included in this Lincoln Letter two pages from the website that perhaps you will find informative.

**Visit our website at [www.lincolnred.org](http://www.lincolnred.org)**

# Lincoln Red Association Of North America

[Home](#)[Breed History](#)[Breeders](#)[Sales Barn](#)[Links](#)[Scrap Book](#)[News Letters](#)

Welcome to North Americas' website of Lincoln Red cattle!

"With a narrowing profit margin, this highly competitive breed is proving to be a prime choice. These cattle feed easily, gaining very readily without elaborate, expensive feeds. Lincoln Red cows have a very generous milk production. Lincoln Red steers have statistically proven themselves as excellent competitors in weight gain and dressing percentages. This rugged, heavy-coated breed is ideal for fluctuating weather patterns. They can withstand cold temperatures without impeding growth and gain.

Another popular attribute of the Lincoln Red is their manageability. This polled breed is generally placid and calm, sires included. All of these qualities have made them a very viable alternative to other beef breeds."



*Mr. Gordon Cook (a past President)*



Submitted by; Burton Rose

We would like to introduce you to the Lincoln Red, one of the oldest English native beef breeds. A polled animal, well fleshed with a deep cherry-red coat, a wide muzzle and well placed legs and sturdy feet, ideally suited to range conditions. Originally dual-purpose, the Lincoln Red female makes an excellent easy calving maternal cow. Either pedigree or crossbred, the resulting progeny grow rapidly and can be finished under many different systems either grazing or more intensively, producing marbled, flavorful, succulent beef.



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From Donald McQ. Shaver, O.C., D.Sc.

My cattle breeding activities were profoundly influenced by experience as a primary international poultry breeder.

As a boy of 15 I had won the Canadian Egg Laying contest, which was open to competitors from around the world. This winning pen of layers was the result of crossing two unrelated strains of layers, and capturing the full economic benefits of heterosis. This discovery was quite by accident. For a few years different crosses were made, but none performed as spectacularly as that first cross. In other words, I learned that you simply couldn't make any cross and produce a winner.

The next step was to set up a test structure capable of assessing multiple crosses, simultaneously. Annually we tested 30 different crosses, and over time it became clear that a very few strains were exceptional. We found two that regardless of how they were crossed, their progeny would perform significantly above average. When these two lines were crossed, we had the combination that took our name around the world.

I reasoned that this same procedure applied to other species, would likely also express the benefits of heterosis. I searched the world for cattle breeds that were likely to be unrelated to the main beef stocks in North America, which at the time were Hereford, Angus and Shorthorn. Breeds imported included Charolais, Maine Anjou, Salers, Lincoln, North and South Devon. Many others were identified, but for health reasons were not importable.

In the countless breed crosses that were made, the distinctive Lincoln emerged as the breed whose crosses consistently performed above average, in economic terms. The Lincoln was not a flashy breed of cattle, but they were large, adapted to rugged conditions, easy to handle, and possessed a coat of a pleasing red shade. Of importance to me in the 1960's was that genetically it remained a closed (pure) population, that could be traced back to Nordic invaders, and therefore probably to the Russian steppes. Moreover, the traditional cattle breeders of East Anglia had devoted themselves to preserving the purity and rusticity of the Lincoln Red, while steadily enhancing its growth rate.

Today, some of the purest stocks of the Lincoln Red breed are located in North America. Our breeders in Canada and in the USA recognized that they could not for health reasons, rely on the regular importation of breeding animals and semen from overseas sources.

In a move highly unusual in beef cattle breeding circles, the members of the North American Lincoln Red Association have banded together to jointly and systematically preserve the genetic integrity of the breed. Obviously, without this disciplined approach, the limited number of foundation animals would quickly degenerate into an inbred collection of dubious merit. Instead, the breed's gene pool value has been enhanced by the creation of several distinct new lines and this process continues.

Beef cattle breeders who choose to utilize the Lincoln Red as one of the key lines in their final crossbred carcass animal will have incorporated unparalleled rusticity, feed economy, growth rate and heterozygosity (exceptional vigor).

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## Looking for Lincoln Reds?

The following breeders have animals for sale:

● **Scott & Heather McClinchey**

Orton, ON  
519-928-3106

Females, Yearling and 2 year old bulls  
Shaver Abner straws available  
from the Association

● **Sarah Band**

Puslinch, ON  
519-824-5619  
Yearlings available now

● **John and Lorraine Ashby**

Prescott, ON  
613-925-5778  
Yearlings and 3 year old bull

● **Burton Rose**

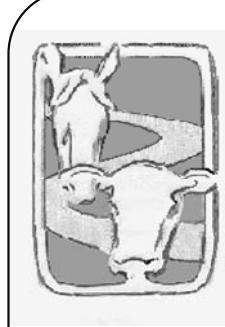
Amherst, NS  
902-667-9834  
Females and 3 year old bulls

● **Larry & Sarah Pedyty**

Chatfield, MN 55923  
507-867-9041  
[lspines@aol.com](mailto:lspines@aol.com)  
2009 bull calves &  
Straws available for U.S.

● **Dennis Hoffrogge**

Sleepy Eye, MN  
507-227-5745  
2009 50% bull calves



**SOUTHCREEK ACRES**

**~Shaver Lincoln Reds~**

Scott & Heather McClinchey  
112025 11<sup>th</sup> Line, R.R. #2  
Orton, Ontario L0N 1N0  
519.928.3106 (h) 519.570.7020 (c)  
[hlm.dvm@sympatico.ca](mailto:hlm.dvm@sympatico.ca)

A lovely selection of two year-old and yearling bulls  
are available for sale (Cockerington Lord, Abner &  
Guardian bloodlines). Also offered is a small selection of  
proven cows and heifers. Visitors welcome.



If there is anyone you know that should be receiving the Lincoln Letter, but currently does not, please let us know.  
We would be happy to send the latest letter to them.  
Please send names and addresses or e-mail the info to  
Secretary, Sarah Pedyty. Thank you!

Visit our website at [www.lincolnred.org](http://www.lincolnred.org)