



This newsletter is sponsored by *The County of Renfrew*

# RENFREW COUNTY FARM NEWS FALL 2016



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RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO  
C/O Agatha Crogie  
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Published by:  
Renfrew County Agricultural Leadership Committee



## **Bobolink Set-Asides in Rotational Grazing Systems 2016-2017 OSCIA Field Research Project in Renfrew County**

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The Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) is working with Bird Ecology and Conservation Ontario (BECO) on a research project that builds on work conducted by OSCIA and Trent University in 2012 and 2013. The study aims to investigate the direct impact of incorporating set-aside areas – left un-grazed by cattle during the sensitive breeding season from early May to mid-July – on the overall reproductive success of bobolink in rotational grazing systems. Renfrew is the ideal county for this work due to the high abundance of bobolink that return to this region each spring to nest. The continued relationships with leading edge cooperators have enabled this project to move into its second phase. 2016 marks the first year of this two-year project, with the first field season coming to a close this July.

This research into bobolink set-asides will support the future development of best management practices and stewardship programs for bobolink. The use of set-asides in rotational grazing is often recommended as a management strategy to support breeding grassland birds, but the extent of its impact has never been tested. This research project is vital to ensuring science-based conservation, and will be an important contribution to future stewardship program design as well as continuing research to advance bobolink conservation. The 10-year agricultural exemption for bobolink under the Endangered Species Act provides the opportunity for us to address significant knowledge gaps to better support bobolink conservation. With the current and upcoming stewardship initiatives to support grassland bird conservation, including the provincial Grassland Stewardship Initiative and federal Species at Risk Partnerships on Agricultural Lands programs, this work is especially relevant and will be key to ensuring these programs fund management activities that benefit both bobolink and the stewards of their habitat.

*Funding for this project was provided by Environment and Climate Change Canada through the Species at Risk Partnerships on Agricultural Lands initiative.*

# 9th Annual Cow-Calf Roadshow

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2016**

- 1:00pm** Depart from Best Western Plus Hotel, Perth
- 1:30pm** **Crystal Farms, Paul and Mary-Ellen Ferguson and Family**  
*Crystal Farms is a family owned and operated farm by Paul, Mary-Ellen, Samantha and Phillip Ferguson. The family operates a purebred and commercial operation with 40 fullblood and purebred Blonde d' Aquitaine cattle. The farm's land base consists of 400 acres of mixed farm land with 220 acres of cleared land for pasture and crops.*
- 2:45pm** **Alec MacGregor**  
*Alec owns a 70 head cow-calf operation on the edge of the Rideau River. To support his cow herd, Alec runs 250 acres of hay and pasture which he manages intensively through rotational grazing. In the fall of each year, Alec markets his cattle at Keady Livestock through the Georgian Bay Premium Charolais Calf Sale.*
- 4:30pm** **Foster Farms, Dwight Foster and Family**  
*Dwight and his family own and operate a large feedlot and extensive cash crop operation in North Gower. They have recently expanded their operation by building a new feeder barn and North Gower Grain Elevators to process wheat, corn and beans.*
- 6:00pm** **Supper and Speaker - Rosedale Hall, Smiths Falls**
- 7:30pm** **Return to Hotel and Evening Social Pub Crawl (optional)**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2016**

- 7:30am** **Continental Breakfast, Best Western Plus Hotel, Perth**
- 9:00am** **Spring Valley Farms, Lois James and Family**  
*The James family of Carleton Place has been raising Herefords in the Ottawa Valley for over 100 years. Over several generations the James family has held annual production sales, sold 25 bulls/year and now market their cattle online to meet the changing needs of purebred and commercial breeders.*
- 11:00am** **Information Session, Two Rivers Food Hub, County Road 43, Smiths Falls**  
*The Two Rivers Food Hub is a connection point for buyers and sellers of local food. Their mandate is to support the agricultural community around the two rivers that run through Lanark, Leeds and Grenville counties. The Hub offers locally grown and sustainably raised beef from farmers within the region. They currently deliver to retail customers weekly, and consumers can order on a bi-weekly basis with pick up locations in Ottawa South and Kanata.*
- 12:00pm** **Lunch, Two Rivers Food Hub**
- 1:00pm** **DBM Land and Cattle, Don Badour and Barb Keith and Family**  
*Don and Barb own a 50 head cow-calf operation near Perth, Ontario where they also grow corn, soybeans, wheat, barley and hay. In addition to their own farm business, they also sell firewood and offer custom cropping and haying, and livestock trucking. The couple have two sons, Logan and Lucas, who are well on their way to becoming the next generation of farmers!*

*On the road again...*



# 9th Annual COW-Calf Roadshow

All participants are required to fill out an  
**INDIVIDUAL** registration form

## A. PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/TOWN: \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

## B. HOTEL ROOM - Wednesday, September 7, 2016 - Best Western Plus, Perth

Double Room  
\* 2 queen beds, Non-smoking

Single Room  
\* 1 queen bed, Non-smoking  
\* ADD \$50 to the registration fee if only one guest will occupy the room.

I prefer to room with the following person in a double/single room: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Any incidentals incurred at the hotel are at the individual's expense.

## C. TRANSPORTATION

I do not require transportation     I will require a seat on the bus     I will be traveling on the bus from western Ontario\*  
\* ADD \$50 to registration fee

## D. REGISTRATION FEE

\$150.00                       \$75.00                       \$50.00  
\* excludes accommodations                      \* excludes accommodations and bus

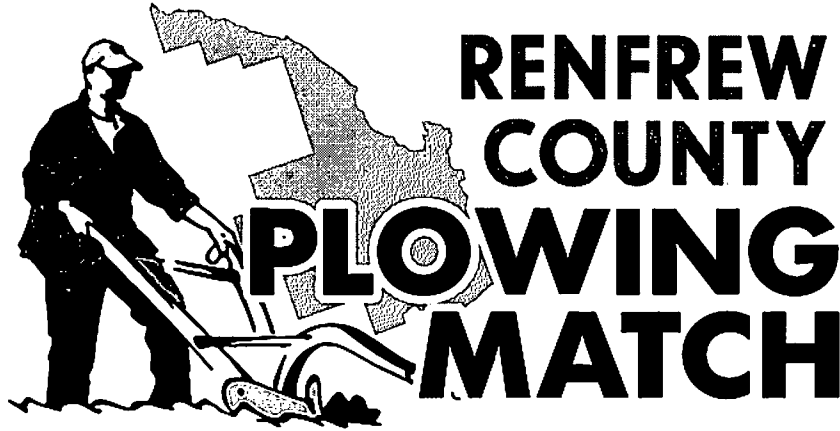
Please return this form and a cheque payable to the Beef Farmers of Ontario OR  
call the office with your credit card information by no later than **FRIDAY, AUGUST 26, 2016**

Registration is limited to 100 active beef farmers. Register soon to ensure participation in the two-day event.

\*Please contact Bethany Storey at 519.824.0334 ext. 224 for more information on the bus from western Ontario.

130 Malcolm Road, Guelph ON, N1K 1B1 Phone: 519.824.0334 Toll Free: 1.866.370.2333 Fax: 519.824.9101

# A Rural Family Festival



**Saturday, September 17th  
8:30am to 5pm**

at Robdot Farms with Hosts Janet and Stephen Edwards  
191 Snake River Rd., outside Cobden in Whitewater Region

**Renfrew County Soil & Crop  
Improvement Association Tillage Demo**

**Antique Tractor/Automobile Parade**

**Competitive Plowing**

**Agri-Business Dealers and Trade Displays**

**Live Entertainment Stage**

**KidsZone Area**

**Tent City with Crafters, Vendors & Exhibitors**

**4H Achievement Day**

**Breakfast prepared by Renfrew County 4H Club**

Lunch and Refreshments will be provided by  
Various Food Vendors in Attendance

Admission: Adults \$7.50 ; 12 yrs and under FREE  
To find out more go to [renfrewcountyploymen.ca](http://renfrewcountyploymen.ca)



**Renfrew County National Farmers Union**  
Tony Straathof, President  
Telephone: 613-587-4343 or 613-646-7753  
email: [rcnfu330@gmail.com](mailto:rcnfu330@gmail.com)

The Renfrew County NFU continues to work on many issues affecting family farms throughout the county.

**#drought2016** – The recent rainfall does give area farmers some relief from the dry weather conditions experienced over the spring and summer. Concern for limited winter feed and poor crop yield has emphasized the need for farmers to enrol in risk management programs such as production insurance. These programs are administered by Agricorp in Ontario. As stewards of the land, risk can also be mitigated by responsible tillage practices, cover crops and the need for ongoing learning. Renfrew County NFU encourages all engaged in the agriculture industry to take advantage of meetings and seminars offered in our area.

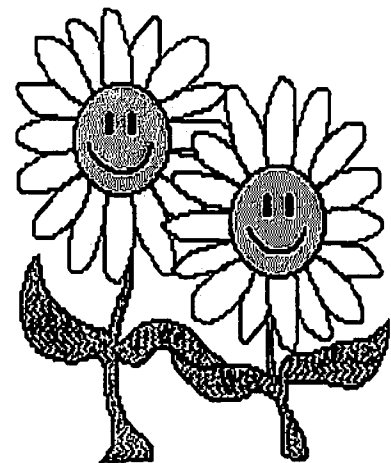
**AAFC National Engagement Session** Tony Straathof, representing NFU - O, attended the AAFC National Engagement Session to provide input on the development of the next Agriculture Policy Framework. Representatives from across the agriculture industry (commodity groups, processors and producer groups) discussed the opportunities to build on the success of the previous framework and suggest improvements going forward.

**Federal – Provincial - Territorial Pre-Ministerial Conference Stakeholder Session** Tony Straathof, representing NFU-O, attended the Stakeholder Session with agriculture groups from across Ontario meeting with Minister Jeff Leal to discuss Ontario's concerns to be brought forward to the Federal - Provincial – Territorial Ministers meeting in Calgary on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. The culmination of the meeting on July 22<sup>nd</sup> created the Calgary Statement. Anyone interested in viewing the details of the Calgary Statement can find the full report online at the AAFC website. The Calgary Statement projects a positive outlook for Canadian farmers. If you are interested in being part of the public consultation, the AAFC invites you to familiarize yourself with the Calgary Statement and complete the online questionnaire. This opportunity is available to the public on the AAFC website until November 30, 2016.

**Renfrew County NFU Winter Workshops** – planning has begun for the winter workshops RC NFU has successfully delivered in the past. Final dates and topics will be advertised locally or contact an NFU member for details. As harvest is upon us the NFU reminds everyone to think of safety first. Enjoy the beautiful fall colours and take time off to meet with friends and neighbours at the upcoming agriculture events - Renfrew Fair, Renfrew County Ploughing Match, Taste of the Valley to name a few!  
Renfrew County NFU will be in attendance drop by for a chat!

**Regular Monthly Meeting** first Monday of the month, Barr Line Community Centre, 7:30 p.m. All are welcome.

**Renfrew County Veterinary Services  
Committee Annual Meeting  
Tuesday, September 27, 2016  
Whitewater Municipal Building, Cobden  
Producers welcome to attend.  
(Park at the back of the building)**



## **Veterinarians on Contract**

Veterinarians under contract with the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines to provide Veterinary Services to large animal producers in Renfrew County and Nipissing District:

Dr. Tony Ruyter, Cobden Animal Centre, Cobden – 613-646-2345

Dr. Linwood Fisher Veterinary Services, can be contacted through the  
Cobden Animal Centre at 613-646-2345

Dr. Laurie Jeffrey – Madawaska Veterinary Clinic, Renfrew – 613-432-9187

Dr. Donald Clarke - Renfrew Animal Hospital – 613-432-8884

For more information, contact the Chairman of the Renfrew County Veterinary Services Committee, Lloyd Robinson 613-582-3715 or the Secretary/Treasurer, Glen Smith at 613-628-2987.

You may also want to visit the Northern Producer Animal Health Network web page – Northern Producer Animal Health Network.com.

### **Renfrew County Soil and Crop Improvement Association**

#### **Annual Meeting**

**Friday, Dec. 9, 2016**

**Galbraith Room, Renfrew Armouries**

**10:30 am**

For more information contact Jennifer Doelman at 613-570-0677  
or [bds@totalcropcare.com](mailto:bds@totalcropcare.com)

### **Renfrew County Soil and Crop Improvement Association**

#### **Tillage Demonstration**

**At the Renfrew County Ploughing Match**

**Saturday, September 17, 2016**

**On the farm of Steven and Janet Edwards & Family**

**191 Snake River Line, Cobden**

For more information, or dealers wanting to participate, contact  
Dean Matheson at 613-401-4185 or [dnbmatheson@hotmail.com](mailto:dnbmatheson@hotmail.com)



## Renfrew County Farm Safety Association

It's Harvest time again and that means extra planning to  
**MAKE SURE THAT EVERYONE STAYS SAFE.**

1. Teach children to stay away from Gravity Wagons, full or empty.
2. Make sure that augers have guards. The Association has copies of **ON GUARD!! A HANDBOOK FOR HOME BUILT GUARDING OF FARM EQUIPMENT** Call 432-6317 for a copy.
3. Do not enter Grain Bins without someone acting as Watcher.  
Wear a tethering rope that could be used to pull you out if necessary.
4. Wear and use a harness when climbing silos or other high storage facilities.
5. **PLAN FARM SAFETY**

### PEMBROKE FARMERS MARKET

The Pembroke Farmers' Market is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8:30 am - 1:00 pm for all your fresh seasonal produce. We are 100% homegrown and handmade. Uncle Jim's meat room is on site for all your barbecuing needs - fresh beef, pork, chicken along with unique combinations to tantalize your taste buds.

Our canteen will entice your curiosity with the home cooking smells wafting through the market. Sit and enjoy a homemade breakfast or lunch and refreshments and desserts.

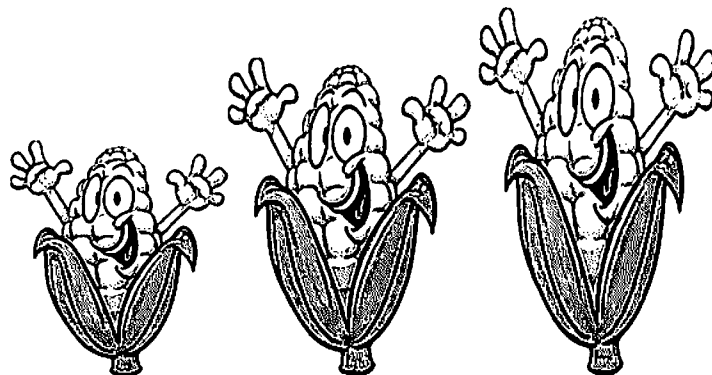
Or if you prefer, pick up some take out.

Stroll through the market to pick up all your fresh seasonal produce, baking, jams, pickles, many other preserves and condiments and frozen meats including chicken or lamb.

Pick up handmade items from one of our crafters as a treat for yourself or a gift.

Plenty of free parking, wheelchair accessible washrooms with a baby changing table.

We are open until October 8.





## RENFREW COUNTY FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

A reminder that the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary signs for the county federation that appeared in the last newsletter can still be ordered by contacting Reuben Stone or Donna Campbell. Kruger signs in Cobden will be doing the signs for us. We only have orders for 7 signs now and we would like 10 before we start them.

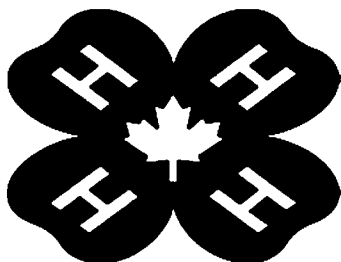
The Annual/Regional meeting is coming up on Saturday November 5<sup>th</sup>. We will also be having a banquet which will begin at 7:00 pm at the Cobden Agricultural Hall. This banquet is open to members and their spouses and the first 100 registering for this will receive their meal free. With this being our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary we are going to be holding just the voting of a board of directors, the nomination of PAC person and delegates to the OFA Convention during the meeting part of the evening. We expect that we will only take about a half an hour to do the meetings. When we have finished the banquet and meeting part we are going to have a Trivia Night with 75% of the answers having to do with agriculture. We will begin the trivia portion of the evening at 8:30 pm and will accept teams of 6 per table. There is no cost to the trivia but we will be awarding prizes to the brightest and the best so please get a team together, doesn't have to be OFA members, and let's celebrate Renfrew County Federation of Agriculture's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The bar will be open for this event from 6:30 pm till we are finished with the trivia.

You can register your team with Donna Campbell at 432-5568 or by e-mail [donnaofa@nrtco.net](mailto:donnaofa@nrtco.net).

Donna Campbell, Deb Knapton OFA Field Representative and Charlene Dick made a noxious weed presentation to County Council on Tuesday August 9 mainly concentrating on the Wild Parsnip. County Council realizes the need to do something and are working on a strategy to find out where this weed is in the county and setting up a protocol for the destroying of this weed. Jason Davis would like to hear from the farmers who are finding the Wild Parsnip in their area ditches. He can be reached at 613-735-3204 or toll free at 1-800-273-1283 or e-mail [jdavis@countyofrenfrew.on.ca](mailto:jdavis@countyofrenfrew.on.ca). The County spoke about the fact that they had a policy on no herbicide spraying of ditches over many years but are realizing that some kind of action needs to be taken to control the spreading of this noxious weed. We may also find that we will have to make a presentation to individual townships to also take action. We did request the County to push the municipalities on our behalf; but where that will go remains to be seen.

The Official Plan for the County of Renfrew has been holding open public consultation meetings across the County. We remind property owners that if they would like to know their property land designation they should contact the people at the Development and Property Committee of County Council and they would be pleased to help them and answer any other questions you might have.

### Renfrew County 4H Association



**CANADA**  
4-H Ontario

Fair time!!! The livestock members are cleaning up their animals and showing them off at all the county fairs! Cobden Fair is next then finishing up with our County Show at the Renfrew Fair. Be sure to look for other exhibits at the fairs because 4H is not only about the animals!!! New this year is our Demolition Derby Club that will have a car entered in the Derby at the Cobden Fair - come out and cheer on the bright green buggy! The members have been working on this car for a while now and can't wait to show it off and maybe bang it up a little! Thanks for the support to our members! Interested in 4H? Contact Agatha Crogie at [glencomar@gmail.com](mailto:glencomar@gmail.com).

## **Beef Farmers of Ontario Summer Board and Advisory Council Meeting Hosted by Renfrew County:**

July 19, 20 & 21, 2016 saw provincial beef industry leaders converge on Renfrew County. The meeting held at the Best Western Pembroke Inn & Conference Centre discussed numerous topics pertinent to the Ontario beef industry.

Day 1 - saw the board meet privately before heading out to Quarry Hill Farm. There they saw firsthand Bobolink Set-Asides in Rotational Grazing Systems. After seeing how the bird research is being conducted, Louise & Gerald Rollins provided everyone with a wonderful steak dinner capped off with a dessert of fresh homemade pies.

Day 2 - this was when the board and advisory councillors met together. Renfrew County Beef President David McGonegal gave a passionate welcome to all delegates. They soon found out why Renfrew County is the hidden gem within the province. Spirits got even higher as David ended his speech with the You Tube video "Big Joe Mufferaw."

Topics covered on this day were updates on Policy, Government Relations, Canadian Cattlemen's Association plus National Check-Off.

The group then travelled to Shaw Woods Education Facility. Fred Blackstein and his associates offered educational updates plus provided guided tours.

A bus ride through the scenic countryside saw the group ending up at Nangor Resort for dinner. There they met with county directors and enjoyed a Neil Hawthorne barbecue.

Day 3 - once again board and advisory council members met for updates and strategy sessions.

Updates included Communications, Verified Beef Program, Feeder / Breeder loan program, Cow Herd expansion and phosphorous in Lake Erie.

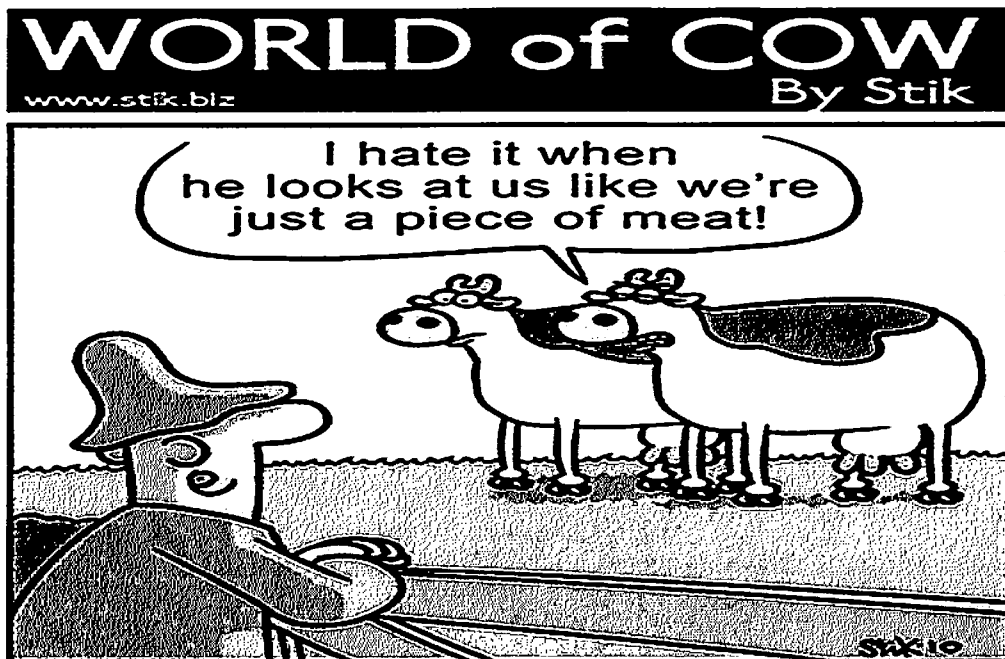
Strategy sessions included Regional Marketing and Animal Care.

The day ended with individual county issues being brought forward.

A big THANK YOU to all Renfrew County Beef directors who made this endeavour possible.

A notable mention must be made to Donna Campbell, David McGonegal and Gerald Rollins whose dedication and leadership once again made Renfrew County shine brightly.

As we like to say RCB hosted BFO and everyone went home singing "EI, EI, O."





## Renfrew County Junior Farmers

It has been a busy and fun time for RCJF throughout the spring and summer. Maybe you have noticed the dust clouds hovering over the highways and byways of Ontario as JF'ers criss-crossed the province meeting up for great events and new experiences!

It was our privilege again to host six international delegates for two weeks, July 10-24. This year the delegates were: Alistair Hughes (England), Lea Schupback (Switzerland), Hannah Kirkpatrick (Northern Ireland), Sarah Ferguson (Scotland), Johanna Von Alven (Germany), and Doris Bieregger (Austria). While in the county they toured a number of farm operations and visited some local tourist sites. Highlights for the delegates were a visit to Irene, Brent and Scott Stewarts farm and families; the Judd family farm in Shawville, and Reuben Stone in Cobden. After a publicity stint at Heritage Radio, the delegates then made a visit to Whitewater Brewery to observe the brewing process of craft beer. To wrap up our time with the delegates we once again enjoyed the traditional Whitewater rafting trip down the Ottawa River with JF members from across the province. Thank you to all who opened their farms and businesses to the delegates and to all whom graciously hosted delegates during their stay.

Some of the other events/activities our enthusiastic Club recently participated in over the summer were: JF Leadership Camp attended by Ben Straathof, Adrian Straathof, Meredith Mulligan, and Lance Laventure; a ball team aptly named "The Beasts from the East" (consisting of JF members from Carleton and Renfrew) enjoyed the JF Alumni Baseball Tournament and the sands of Wasaga Beach on a hot weekend in June; and Redneck Games, organized by Carleton County JF has become an annual "do not miss" social occasion.

Next up for the Club is the Ambassadors Banquet, August 20, hosted by Prince Edward County JF in the Picton Town Hall. At this fun evening JF members dress their best to give a final farewell to the visiting delegates in classic JF style with much cheer and ruckus. Returning exchange delegates add to the entertainment sharing the highlights of their travel adventures and the occasional misadventure.

Our fall social calendars are filling up quickly as we brush off our agriculture skills for Autumn Profile hosted by Kawartha JF in Lindsay on October 19. Coming up quickly after the Royal Winter Fair, Junior Farmers will be dusting off their dancing shoes, pie baking skills, and singing voices for Sing Swing in Ancastor, November 21, graciously hosted by Haldimand JF.

On the community front, RCJF helped to set up and decorate for the Opeongo High School Prom and provided rides later in the evening. Currently we are contributing to Cobden Fair by painting the bleachers, announcer's booth and helping over the weekend. We will be painting at Renfrew Fairgrounds. Contact Club President, Meredith Mulligan, if you wish to help paint! The club also made a financial donation to the Whitewater Relay for Life in Beachburg as part of our ongoing community involvement. Remember part of our mandate is community involvement. If your organization is hosting an event Junior Farmers can help at please contact us.

Junior Farmers is the next step from 4-H. Junior Farmer members are between 15 and 29 (as of Jan. 1) from all occupations and walks of life. To learn more about the Renfrew County Club contact us through Facebook, Twitter @rcjuniorfarmers or email the club at [renfrewcountyjuniorfarmers@hotmail.com](mailto:renfrewcountyjuniorfarmers@hotmail.com)

Club meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month. Come out and get to know us better. Contact Meredith Mulligan, Club President for meeting location.

Benedict Straathof, Assistance Provincial Director  
Renfrew County Junior Farmers

P.S. Heading to the IPM in Wellington County? Try to catch the JFAO float in the parade on September 20<sup>th</sup>

## Dateline

### September

- 5 NFU Mtg - Barrline
- 7 Cow-Calf Roadshow - Perth
- 7-11 Renfrew Fair
- 15 Cattlemen's Mtg - Cobden
- 17 Plowing Match - Cobden
- 21 Plowman's Mtg - Cobden
- 26 Fed of Ag Mtg - Cobden
- 27 Vet Services Annual Mtg - Cobden
- 29-Oct 2 Metcalfe Fair

### October

- 1 Taste of the Valley - Renfrew
- 3 NFU Mtg - Barrline
- 15 Taste of the Valley - Cobden
- 19 Plowman's Mtg - Cobden
- 20 Cattlemen's Mtg - Cobden
- 24 Fed of Ag Mtg - Cobden

### November

- 4-13 Royal Winter Fair - Toronto
- 5 Fed of Ag Annual Mtg and Trivia - Cobden
- 7 NFU Mtg - Barrline
- 9 Deadline for Submissions-RC Farm News
- 16 Plowman's Mtg - Cobden
- 17 Cattlemen's Mtg - Cobden

**Attention to all Organizations**  
Please mark your calendars with the following dates to submit articles for the  
Renfrew County Farm Newsletter  
November 9, 2016  
Please send to  
[rcfarmnews@gmail.com](mailto:rcfarmnews@gmail.com)

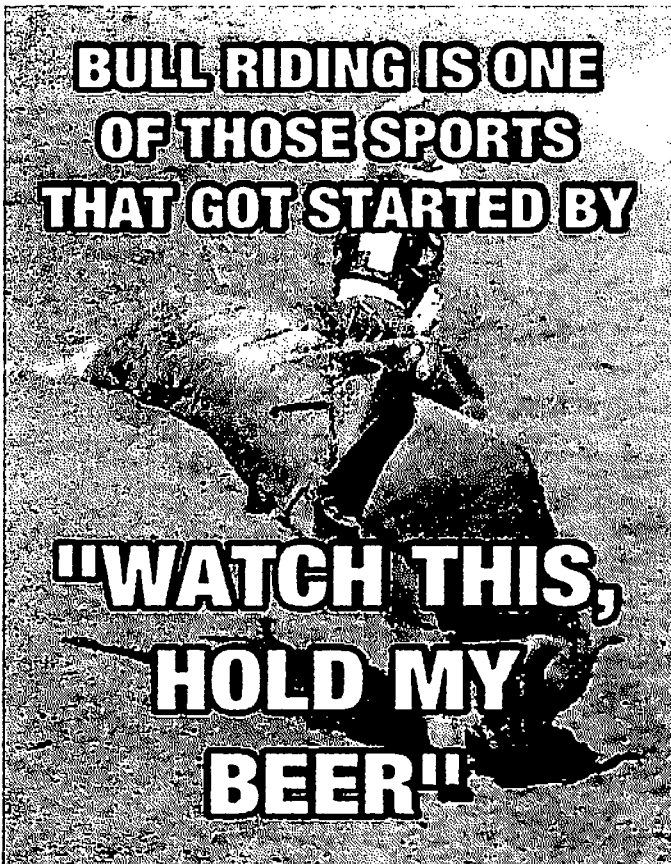
### **REMINDER Monthly Meetings:**

Arnprior Federation of Agriculture  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month  
8pm at the Galetta Community Hall  
Contact Ernie Smith 613-623-3439

Renfrew County Plowmen - Cobden  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month  
Contact Myles England 613-582-3470

Renfrew County Cattlemen - Cobden  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month  
Contact Donna Campbell 613-432-5568

Renfrew County Federation of Agriculture -  
Cobden  
4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month  
Contact Donna Campbell 613-432-5568



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LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE  
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