

American Dexter Cattle Association

The Bulletin

1984-85 WINTER

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

We are a tad late with this issue of the Bulletin, but then, Spring is young yet here in Ohio. We had a little snow and sleet again today - winter just can't let go. And, too, income tax season pressures us tremendously.

The 1985 General Meeting set for June 21, 22 and 23 will be held at the Harley Hotel of Cleveland West. It is located within 5 minutes of Cleveland-Hopkins Airport with the Courtesy Van running every half hour. There will be no need for auto rentals.

Rooms are light and spacious, each containing two double beds. Rates are \$42.00 per night for either single or double occupancy with a charge of \$8.00 for each person over two. No charge, however for children under 16 years of age. There are both indoor and outdoor heated pools for the young folk. (And those not so young.)

As guest speakers, our program will have both a veterinarian and a feed specialist. Bring your questions for both of them.

Bob Bright of Spring Green, Wi. says he will try to have ready for us the tape he is making of a friend of his who has a God-given talent for gentling animals - breaking and training them to harness and yoke. He is now working with two Dexter bulls which we will see as a matched pair of Oxen. If all goes well, Bob will show the tape on Friday evening in the hospitality room.

We have enclosed with this Bulletin a sheet containing both Hotel Reservation and Meeting Registration forms. Please return them as soon as possible. The following map and phone numbers should be retained for use in travel:

Harley Hotel of Cleveland/West 17000 Bagley Road Middleburg Heights, Ohio 44130

If your plans change, please call (216) 243-5200 or (800) 321-2323 to cancel or alter your reservation.



REPORT FROM THE NORTH PLAINS REGION by Rosemary Rieman, Director

Dexter Cattle have become a very viable part of my life the past few years. Walking out to the yard each morning, it's hard to think of what it was like before those little black faces masked by their long lashes came to live here. The more I read about Dexters, work with them and talk with other Dexter owners, the more fascinated I become with the breed. Anyone who has dealt with livestock throughout their life has to admit that Dexters are special. They are indeed a multi-purpose cattle that are gentle and easy to handle.

When you have only a small acreage, as we do, you constantly need to move your cattle about. It would be impossible if they were not at least partially halter broke. I have found that they are extremely intelligent and very easy to train. In fact--just recently I started leading a little Dexter bull when he was about two weeks old. The second day, he led around like he had done it all of his life. All of our Dexters know their names (or at least their nicknames) and know which stall is theirs in the barn. All we need to do is drive them in the barn and each one heads for their respective pen. Although any Dexter will only be as tame as the owner makes it, one finds very quickly that even an aged cow or bull can be tamed rather quickly and easily. A little grain and "TLC" go a long way.

We not only have the Dexters, but two riding horses as well. Many people are surprised that we have the horses and Dexters together. However, they have adapted to each other very well, and we have never had any of our cows or bull make an attempt to injure the horses with their horns.

One of our cows is a typical "house cow". She not only supplies us, her calf and the neighbor with milk, but also our cats, dogs and chickens as well. She is fed approximately a gallon of feed daily (corn, oats, and a small amount of dairy supplement) plus pasture in summer or about one-fourth to one-third of a bale of hay in the winter (this may vary some depending on the quality of the hay). We milk her twice a day and receive about three or more gallons of milk daily. It would be interesting to have a dairy herd of Dexters. I'm sure with high quality feed that for the amount of feed consumed, although you may have more cattle, Dexters could be competitive in milk production.

I recently heard on a TV program that pet owners live longer and healthier lives. I can't really imagine that they were referring to Dexters when they said this, but they certainly keep your life from being boring. "Remember, a day without a Dexter is like a Taco without sauce - - it just lacks the zip one needs in life." Besides, Dexters may make your life longer and healthier as well!

Tuffer Goes To The Fair (1984) by Laura Winegardner

I really enjoyed living at "The Dexters' Winegarden" - - lots of good food and a couple of nice cows, although they wouldn't let me close to that cute young heifer. Then one day, they hooked a lead to my halterand tied me to a tree. Good grief - why were they squirting me with water - water is for drinking. I had been working real hard getting that dust into my hide.

Next thing I know, they wanted me to get into the back of their Datsun pick-up. OK, OK - sometimes humans ask a lot of a Dexter bull.

The first place we went to said "VETS". The Winegardners told the vet "Tuffer's going to the fair - he needs his hoofs trimmed." Then something felt like a bee sting and I got real tired. The vet said I would wake up in about 45 minutes. It was relaxing to have that pedicure - I slept most of the afternoon. Anesthesia must go real slow through us Dexters because we are so mellow.

Then, back into the Datsun and on to the fair. Hey - this place was alright ... like a beauty contest with all those spiffed-up cows and heifers. They put me next to a 1450 lb Holstein cow, and I weigh about 640 lbs. One day Laura gave me another bath but did not chain me up tight afterwards. I went to visit some of the cows, and some woman

Tuffer - - continued

screamed: "Don't go into that barn - there's a loose bull! Laura came and took me to my stall don't know why everyone got so excited.

I never saw so many humans. They all stopped and gawked at me. I wish I had a can of grain for every time someone said "I've never heard of Irish Dexters before". The Winegardner kids liked to pass out the pamphlets that Kay Baker sent. A lot of the people said they should put me into the Fair's petting zoo.

The Winegardners took me for walks every day. One day, Bruce walked me to a big arena where a man really looked me over. "Well - I've never heard of Irish Dexters before, but he looks like a Grand Champion to me." He gave the Winegardners two ribbons and they sure were happy. Now, whose moment of glory was this, anyway?

The Dexters Winegarden 7355 Ohio Match Rd Rathdrum, Idaho 83858

REPORT FROM THE MID-SOUTH REGION by Dan Harrell, Director

As I write this, it is the week before Christmas so I send along what will be a belated holiday greeting to all Dexter enthusiasts wherever you may be.

I have just finished rereading the ADCA bulletins for 1978, 79 etc. It seems the enthusiasm was running very high at that time. Our association had just been re-organized with a slate of by-laws and a code of ethics. The Kerry breed was dropped from our official name.

I ran across an item on detection of heat cycle in cows which I think warrants reprinting. It was written by President Jim Johnson. I'm sure many of us can use these pointers.

In October I over-seeded some rye grass on native Bermude grass. It is up to a good stand and if it ever gets dry I will fertilize it and should have good grazing through winter and early spring till the Bermude comes out. Our moisture situation goes from one extreme to the other. We had many months of drought, now it is continuous sogginess.

I hope you are worming your Dexters regularly. This should be done at least every six months and when I over-graze a pasture 60 days is not too often.

Our new herd book is due soon, or you may already have it by the time you read this. Remember, don't destroy your old one. These can be useful in tracing parentage of your stock. If a person had all the herd books they could trace ancestry all the way back to when they came off the boat. I threw away two herd books before I learned how advantageous they can be.

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In a later phone call, Dan tells us the Mid-South Region held their Regional meeting on March 30th. They saw three herds, and there were about 20 people for a tour of the A-I Station in central Texas. They ended with a steak dinner and a real Bull session. Don Piehota was the only member there from out of the Mid-South Region.

Dan Harrell

REPORT FROM THE CENTRAL STATES REGION

To date, Rosie, Monica, Shanda, Dechlon, Cannon, Rockne and Casey are the new arrivals at Briar Hill Farm waiting to greet all of you in June! Each one is sweeter than the last, and the miracle is ever new.

We are all, indeed, looking forward to greeting you in June. We are busy with plans for the meeting and getting everything "ship-shape" as Briar Hill Farm will, of course, be on the agenda. Hope the weather is as good as it was for last year's meeting in Vermont!

Lois Johnson

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FOR SALE * * * * FOR SALE * * * * FOR SALE * * * * FOR SALE * * * *
IDAHO
                                  水
                                    OHIO
   1 8-yr old cow ) both due to calve
                                        Good Herd Nucleii Available:
                                  1/4
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                                  *
                                        Young cows and bulls sired by
                                        Jamie O'Callen #1949, black.
   I 3-yr old bull all registered.
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              Challis, ID 83226
                                        Also, unrelated aged cows.
              (208) 879-2471
                                          Delivery can be arranged.
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   2 Bulls
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              Anna Gnaedinger
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                                       Bull - #2391 Frosty Fine
                                  ste.
              R R #1, Box 78
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                                  2/4
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                                                   Bob Bright & Julie Jones
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I shall be happy to return the favor.
NORTH CAROLINA
    2 cows and 1 bull
                                  1/2
                                                   Julie Jones
                                    4-mo heifer and 6-mo bull
                                  1/2
                                  de
                                     CANADA
      (make nice pair)
              Bud & Mary Hinson
                                  de
                                        2 black calves for sale:
                                         Heifer - Sire #2600 Cranworth Rory
              Rt #1 Box 1746 G
                                  *
                                             (his parents British imports)
              Davidson, NC 28036
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              (704) 892 - 8656
                                         Bull - Sire #2600 Cranworth Rory
de
NORTH DAKOTA
                                               Dam #2532 Royal of Old Orchard
                                                   Patricia Freeman
    Heifers, cows and bulls, $450 for
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                                  3/5
                                  old
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              Melvin Pierce
                                                   (519) 762-2446
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                                  2/4
                                                   Peter Lunny
               Kay Moore Baker
                                                   RR7
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               Rochester, MN 55904
                                  2/4
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again.
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DEXTER SEMEN AVAILABLE FOR A.I.

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22

250

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Richfield, Ohio 44286

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* * * * * * * * * * * * * *

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* * * *

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Dexter

Cattle

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