

Spring, Contests and Fun

by **Debby Mrnak**, AHW historian

Ah-h-h-spring — the smell of green grass, the sight of whitefaced Hereford babies everywhere and the fast approaching junior shows and contest deadlines.

“A Hereford Celebration” is a most fitting description of one of the largest junior breed shows in the U.S. This year the Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE) will be in Denver July 7-14. You better make your reservations pronto!

It’s a great event to get involved in, whether this is your first time at the JNHE or one of many. One thing is for sure; memories will be created not only for juniors, but for parents as well.

The JNHE is where you can gather with old and new friends; finally take your Hereford steer or heifer into the showing (after months of preparation); or

participate in team marketing, the judging contest or showmanship. Just be sure to take advantage of all that is offered.

Keep in mind scholarship applications are due as early as May 1. Check out the John Wayne Memorial Scholarship; Future Cattleman Scholarship; Prospect awards; Junior Golden Bull awards; and poster, scrapbook and photography contests. Get those entries in!

And finally, the American Hereford Women (AHW) board is looking for you. Any Hereford women interested in taking on yet another role consider joining us on the board. It’s a wonderful opportunity to show your enthusiasm for the Hereford breed and to help promote and assist our juniors — our future! **HW**

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P.O. Box 254, Rochester, TX 79544

(940) 742-3347

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Two Women Selected as Ambassadors

by **Starr Whaley**, NOP chairman

Greetings from the Deep South and warm weather, finally! For a Southern girl who only sees snow occasionally and below zero temperatures rarely, the Denver National Western Stock Show (NWSS) was quite an eye-opener.

It was great to get back home and back to a warmer climate. For all of you who have not seen the first daffodils of spring, let me be the first to tell you that they are beautiful. Warmer weather is on the way across the country and I wish for all of you an early and beautiful spring.

Members of the National Organization of Poll-ettes (NOP) have

been busy getting programs started for the 2007 Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE) in Denver. We are looking forward to assisting with the activities and scholarship programs we sponsor. We know that this year will be another banner year for juniors participating in the events. We are excited about the wonderful events being planned by the National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA) board.

Ruth Espenscheid and I participated in the CHB Ambassador Program interviews in February in Kansas City, Mo., along with Bonnie Coley-Malir from the American Hereford Women (AHW) and

representatives from the Certified Hereford Beef (CHB) LLC staff.

The committee selected Anna Rhodus from Missouri and Mary Ann Berg from Ohio as the inaugural ambassadors for the program. The two women were scheduled to assist with store openings in Oklahoma at the end of March. During the openings they will demonstrate and promote. They will assist with other events such as this during the next year. Our congratulations go out to these two wonderful representatives of the Hereford breed and, especially, the CHB program. We look forward to many more applicants for the 2008 program year.

I encourage everyone to participate in the spring meetings and shows that are held in your areas and always be on the lookout for new NOP members and new Hereford breeders. Remember, we are only as strong as our weakest link, so be sure to keep the chain taut! **HW**

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12044 Hwy 78, Argyle, WI 53504

(608) 543-3778

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