

Strategic Planning Continues; All Women Invited to Brunch

by Cheryl Evans, AHW president

The American Hereford Women and National Organization of Poll-ettes (NOP) boards of directors have voted to move forward and explore the possibility of combining the two organizations.

Three individuals from each group were appointed to a committee to work toward this goal. The strategic planning committee is being very conscientious in its efforts. Our first conference call was set up for 45 minutes. We each gave a short biography to become better acquainted. We then reviewed the bylaws of each organization and discussed our similarities and our differences.

We all agreed that we want to keep in mind our history and be sure it is preserved in this process. We also agreed both

organizations' goals are to support the breed, our industry and our youth. With these goals, we want to move forward in the direction that is best for everyone.

We want our members to be included in this process. We will keep you updated through the newsletter, the *Hereford World*, both women's Web sites and at <http://barnaisle.blogspot.com/>. Your comments are important to us, and we will take your comments into consideration as we formulate our final report and suggestions to the respective memberships. We ask for your support and guidance in making the decisions involved in this process.

We are planning at least a couple of occasions for our members to meet together to

American Hereford Women

President

Cheryl Evans, *Winona, Miss.*

President-elect

Deb Carlson, *Royal Center, Ind.*

Vice president

Debby Mrnak, *Bowman, N.D.*

Secretary

Donna Fulton, *Lexington, N.C.*

Treasurer

Della Ehlke, *Townsend, Mont.*

Historian

Donna Curry, *McAlester, Okla.*

Parliamentarian

Janelle Bischoff, *Huron, S.D.*

Membership — \$10 annually

Jessye Goertz

79483 Hwy. 2, Berwyn, NE 68814

Directors

Gail Blagg, *Grass Valley, Calif.*

Barbara Ernst, *Windsor, Colo.*

Ann Guess, *Jayton, Texas*

Barb Wilkinson, *Highlands Ranch, Colo.*

Web site: ahw.hereford.org

discuss this process. The first meeting is planned following the NOP breakfast and membership meeting in Tulsa during the Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE). Watch for more details. We hope you will plan to attend. **HW**

NOP Plans Activities, Updates Bylaws

by Katie Peebles, NOP secretary

As I write this column, the Rockies and plains are having a spring blizzard, and many other parts of the country are experiencing nasty weather. However, arrival of robins and other songbirds last week plus the grass greening up and many newborn calves promise spring is soon to bloom.

When this issue of the *Hereford World* arrives, spring activities will

be ending, and we'll all be looking forward to summertime events such as preview shows, field days and summer shows. These summer events and activities present many opportunities to promote our breed, youth, and state and national Poll-ette organizations.

All roads will lead to Tulsa, Okla., in July for Hereford families and the Junior National Hereford

Expo (JNHE). If you have never been to a JNHE, you should make an effort to attend. The JNHEs are tremendous, wholesome family events. The atmosphere and enthusiasm for the Hereford breed are unmatched.

The Poll-ettes are always looking for more state queens to participate in the national queen contest. Now is the time of year for many state queens to be selected. Support your state queen program and the young ladies who compete for queen. Help support them as they promote our breed.

Membership

Utilize your spring and summer meeting and field days as opportunities to promote

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National Organization of Poll-ettes

Chairman

Paula Tracy, *Rupert, Idaho*

Vice chairman

Cindy Lambert, *Oroville, Calif.*

Secretary

Katie Peebles

498 Hwy. 133, Hotchkiss, CO 81419

(970) 260-9121

Treasurer

Susan Gebhart, *Claremore, Okla.*

Directors

Jeanine Radel, *Spring Green, Wis.*

Susan Rader, *Mt. Vernon, Texas*

Courtney Wirtjes, *Durand, Ill.*

Mary Ann Berg, *Dalton, Ohio*

Brook Herring-Gandy, *Beaumont, Miss.*

Diann Strickland, *Mershon, Ga.*

Margeaux Firestine, *Womelsdorf, Pa.*

Betsy Beck, *Bainbridge, Ind.*

membership in your state ladies' organization and the national Poll-ettes. Take the opportunity to invite mothers of junior exhibitors at preview shows and field day shows to join your organization.

Bylaws revised

The National Organization of Poll-ettes (NOP) revised its bylaws during the annual meeting in Denver. With the bylaw change, the NOP annual meeting will now be in Kansas City in conjunction with the American Hereford Association (AHA) annual meeting.

Mark your calendar to attend the national meeting, the Hereford Gala and all the American Royal National Show activities this fall.

The Poll-ette of the Year award will be given during the annual meeting. Be aware of the new deadline for your state organization to nominate a lady for this award. Check the AHA Web site at *Hereford.org*; select "Poll-ette" link for the new deadline date.

The new NOP bylaws reconfigured the board to 10 area directors plus two at-large directors. The first at-large director will be elected this fall. Promote this opportunity within your state and area.

Enjoy the spring and have a great summer. We'll see you in Tulsa. **HW**