

Legacy of Character

by *JoAnn Lawrence*, AHW director

The daily decisions we make — good or bad — will shape our character and create our legacy. *Webster's Dictionary* describes character as the combination of qualities or traits that distinguishes an individual or group; personality. I have highlighted a few traits that describe the American Hereford Women (AHW):

Considerate: Ready to act for the welfare of others.

Creative: Originality of thought and execution; productive.

Capable: Having ability; efficient; able; competent.

Committed: To devote unreservedly.

The AHW calls together women who are considerate of the needs of Hereford youth and the industry. Its members are creative, always finding original ideas and productive means to execute them and combining their abilities to accomplish the

goals set forth. Most important is the level of commitment to their mission: to promote Hereford cattle, support Hereford youth and celebrate Hereford women. Every member has a significant role, so take your talents and put them to use in the AHW.

During the AHW annual meeting in October we will be electing three new board members for four-year terms. Retiring from the board will be Kathy Geffert, Haven, Kan.; Lisa Sparrow-Moon, Harrison, Ark.; and Sherry Pope-Smith, Tulsa, Okla.

The Board is so appreciative of all that these ladies have done for the organization. They met their obligations and responsibilities fairly and then some.

Visit the AHW Web site for more information. Go to www.hereford.org and click on the "Hereford Women" tab. **HW**

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Hereford Works at www.herefords.net

A Big Success

by *Dianne Peebles*, NOP chairman

The 2006 Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE) was a big success. The National Organization of Poll-ettes (NOP) gave away a show-ready heifer donated by Whaley Polled Herefords and four \$1,000 scholarships juniors can use to purchase polled Hereford heifers (see page 64).

I would like to extend my gratitude and appreciation to all of the Ohio and Kentucky people for their super job in hosting a wonderful week of activities.

There isn't another facility in America that matches the Kentucky

facility for hosting a cattle show in July.

I wish all Hereford breeders and their families could attend a JNHE. If you never have been, the full scope, magnitude, wonder and wholesomeness of the event is surely difficult to grasp. This is the greatest Hereford event held each year.

It is a cattle show, but it is so much more. It is a family event.

The cattle are stalled by states. Families from within the states work together to decorate the stalls and keep the area neat and clean.

Families share meal times. Coolers, microwaves and grills are everywhere.

Some states put on elaborate meals to feed all their families.

But, this is a gathering of America's Hereford community, and state lines diminish. A nationwide network of friendships based on cattle, agriculture and family is at work all week long.

But the truly great thing to see is the shared pride and love between parents and their children. The parents are with their kids in the make-ready area encouraging them before they go into the showring. And, there is always a parent at the other end of the arena to greet them when they come out of the ring. No matter what the placing, parents give handshakes or hugs and walk with their arms around their kid back to the stalls.

That is the real atmosphere of a JNHE and that is why the Poll-ettes are so committed to supporting the National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA). We work untiringly to support the juniors. **HW**

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