

There Is a Season to Join the AHW Board

by *Jessye Goertz*, AHW director

Everyone goes through “seasons” in his or her life. During some seasons, we are so focused on one or more areas that we can’t possibly add one more thing. Those busy seasons might include young children, careers or aging parents.

We decline the opportunity to get more involved in organizations, knowing that there will be a time for those other activities. I’ve served on nominating committees for other organizations in the past and know that capable people want to serve but maybe “not now.”

Only you know if it’s your season to serve on the American Hereford Women (AHW) board. I’m new to the board myself, but I can already say it’s been a great experience. I’m looking forward to the next

three years. The board meets face-to-face two times each year: at a spring meeting in a location determined by the president and at the American Royal in Kansas City. Otherwise, we meet via conference call and e-mail.

You can find out more about AHW on the American Hereford Association Web site, *Hereford.org*.

Two board members will be elected at the annual meeting in Kansas City, Nov. 1 to take the place of Susan Turner and Bonnie Coley-Malir.

If you believe it’s “your season” to serve on the AHW board, contact Debbie Mrnak at (701) 574-3193 or debbymrnak@yahoo.com or Gail Blagg at (530) 265-9395 or ssisgail@gv.net. **HW**

American Hereford Women

President

Bonnie Coley-Malir, *Dublin, Ohio*

President-elect

Cheryl Evans, *Winona, Miss.*

Vice president

Deb Carlson, *Royal Center, Ind.*

Secretary

Debby Mrnak

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Treasurer

Barb Wilkinson, *Johnstown, Colo.*

Parliamentarian

Donna Fulton, *Lexington, N.C.*

Historian

Susan Turner, *Rochester, Texas*

Directors

Janelle Bischoff, *Huron, S.D.*

Gail Blagg, *Grass Valley, Calif.*

Donna Curry, *McAlester, Okla.*

Della Ehlike, *Townsend, Mont.*

Jessye Goertz, *Berwyn, Neb.*

Hereford Works at www.herefords.net

An Awesome Gathering

by *Ruth Espenscheid*, NOP secretary-reporter

WOW — words cannot express the recent Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE) — what an awesome gathering of youth, adults, and Hereford cattle. This had to be one of the premier youth livestock events in the nation in 2008.

As my husband and I were driving home from Kansas City, we could not help but marvel at the bumper corn crop we saw along the interstate. In one week’s time, the corn had tasseled out and grown immensely; apparently it loved the hot, humid weather! But, that was not all we marveled at. We both reflected back on the week at the

JNHE and the wonderful memories we will always have:

- A touching opening ceremony that highlighted the dedication and support from individuals and companies for our young people and the Hereford breed.
- The talents and abilities of our junior members outside the showing, as witnessed through the creative arts contest, Hereford idol competition, public speaking events, scholarship interviews, photography, posters, Hereford bowl and judging.
- The awesome junior board

directors, who were always present to lend a hand wherever needed with a kind word, smiles on their faces, and attitudes that exemplified their dedication to the junior members in the Hereford association.

- The national and state queens, who added a definite flair to the entire week with their presence in the showing.



Betsy Beck (left), chairman of the National Organization of Poll-ettes (NOP), awarded Paige Morrison a certificate as the winner of the fourth annual heifer drawing. Paige will have the opportunity to pick out a heifer donated by Eva Hammon and family.

National Organization of Poll-ettes

Chairman

Betsy Beck, *Bainbridge, Ind.*

Vice chairman

Paula Tracy, *Rupert, Idaho*

Secretary-reporter

Ruth Espenscheid

12044 Hwy 78, Argyle, WI 53504

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Treasurer

Susan Gebhart, *Claremore, Okla.*

Directors

Katie Peebles, *Hotchkiss, Colo.*

Susan Rader, *Mt. Vernon, Texas*

Brook Herring-Gandy, *Beaumont, Miss.*

Cindy Lambert, *Orville, Calif.*

Margeaux Firestine, *Womelsdorf, Pa.*

Starr Whaley, *Dalton, Ga.*

- People gathering around the hospitality area — a time for old friends to renew past acquaintances and a time for breeders to meet new friends.
- The camaraderie that was apparent in the barns and stalling areas between youth and adults alike within their state and with many people from states that they were stalled near.
- Exhibitors lending a hand and helping younger members both inside and outside the showing.
- Lots of future National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA) members playing together and making early friendships — our breed's future!
- Many grandparents who traveled to Kansas City to be a part of their grandchildren's experiences at the JNHE and to help with the younger generation while Mom and Dad were busy in the stalls.
- Evidence of the success of the heifer scholarship program, where four out of five winners of cash awards or the heifer donation came back to exhibit those heifers at the show.
- An awareness that class winners came from both small herds and large breeders — at this show everyone was on the same playing field.
- The sponsorship of Arkansas, Illinois and Missouri breeders and breed associations to host such a spectacular event — many thanks for your hard work, planning and organization to make this JNHE a memorable one.
- The American Hereford Association (AHA) staff, who was always there to administer events and make sure everything ran smoothly.

No matter who you are, where you stood in the showing or how you placed in one of the national contests, you are a winner. You are a definite winner in developing the life skills and ethics that will carry you on to be a winner throughout your lifetime. **HW**



The NOP presented four juniors with \$1,000 scholarships to use toward the purchase of a polled Hereford heifer. If the winners purchase a heifer and show her at next year's JNHE, they will receive an additional \$500 check. Scholarship winners pictured with NOP directors (front row, l to r) are: Troy Rau, Stanley, Iowa, peewee; Jody Miller, Thorntown, Ind., junior; Joel Butler, Republic, Mo., intermediate; and Billy Lewis, Walstonburg, N.C., senior.