

Raising Great Kids



Angie Stump Denton

I was on the phone with a good friend back in May discussing the upcoming Kansas Junior Hereford Show and the Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE). We were talking about all the work that goes into getting ready for the event and while at the event as well as how to juggle our careers, kids and cattle.

One thing he told me that day I will remember for years to come. He said, "Angie, showing cattle is all about raising great kids."

If you had a chance to be in Tulsa for the VitaFerm JNHE, you had the chance to witness hundreds of families working hard to raise good kids, who shine in the showring, speech room, and in so much more. With more than 22 skill-based contests, the JNHE is so much more than a cattle show. The JNHE focuses on Hereford cattle, but it teaches our kids many life lessons.

In this issue we feature the more than 640 exhibitors and their families who made the trek to Tulsa for the JNHE. Starting on

Page 77, you'll find highlights of the cattle show, contests and youth who make this event so extraordinary.

This year's JNHE was a special one for me. It was my son Wesley's first year to participate. I can't begin to put into words the feelings I experienced throughout the

week as he participated in contests and in the showring. I'm so thankful he has this opportunity and is excited about participating in the National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA) and the JNHE.

To me, the best thing about the JNHE is that it is a family activity. The JNHE section in this issue kicks off with highlighting three families and their JNHE experiences. I truly enjoyed following the Adcocks, St. Johns and Tribbles throughout the week. They represent what the JNHE and the NJHA are all about. It is no doubt those parents are raising great kids, and they should be very proud of their kids' accomplishments.

Thanks for everything

My friend, who encouraged me to focus on raising good kids, and his daughter had a phenomenal JNHE. She made semi-finals of peewee showmanship and exhibited the grand champion carcass steer.

As I watched the two of them celebrate her accomplishments and spend the week participating in JNHE activities, I knew he believed in and was striving to accomplish what he had encouraged me to focus on.

Unfortunately, I found out during that week he would no longer be a fellow co-worker. I believe his decision to leave the Certified Hereford Beef (CHB) program was not an

easy one. I don't know too many people who are more passionate about Hereford cattle and strive to carry on the traditions of the breed more than he does.

While working for CHB LLC, he worked tirelessly to assist producers in marketing their Hereford feeder cattle. He took his role seriously and helped producers understand the importance of collecting carcass data and encouraged producers to collect information on how their cattle perform in the feedlot and on the rail to help the producers qualify for more premiums at sale time.

"He" is former CHB Vice President of Supply Jim Williams, and I sincerely wish him all the best as he transitions to different opportunities in this great industry. He served our breed for 18 years, first as a fieldman then switching to the CHB team. For me, he was a great resource and was always willing to lend a helping hand. I truly appreciate his knowledge about the commercial cattle and feeding industries.

I'm sure as Hereford breeders we'll continue to see him, as well as his daughter, Hannah, at many more Hereford youth shows in the years to come. Thanks, Jim, for all you did to help increase Hereford demand in the marketplace.



Jim Williams and his daughter, Hannah, celebrate winning the JNHE carcass steer contest.

Angie