

AHW Hosts Annual Meeting

by *Gail Blagg*, AHW board member

The annual meeting of the American Hereford Women (AHW) was Saturday, Nov. 1, 2008, at the Hilton President in Kansas City, Mo. The brunch meeting was well attended and enjoyed by members and guests.

The business meeting was conducted, and the group has exciting plans and ideas for continuing to promote the Hereford breed and assist and encourage youth activities. We are always looking for new members, so please be sure to tell a friend about this great group of progressive ladies.

The highlight of the meeting was the presentation of the 2008 Outstanding Hereford Woman Award. This year's recipient was Kathy Knox Buchholz, Bardwell, Texas. She has spent many years raising and promoting Herefords (see Page 25).

Bonnie Coley-Malir, retiring AHW president, and Susan Turner, retiring director, were recognized for

their contributions and hard work. We know these ladies will continue to support AHW and the breed.

The two new board members are Ann Guess from Texas and Barbara Ernst from Colorado. It is always exciting and refreshing to have new directors. Our president-elect Cheryl Evans took the reins and concluded our meeting. The directors then joined together for our first meeting under Cheryl's guidance. We all received our committee assignments and are ready to get to work promoting Hereford programs.

Our major fund-raiser that continues is the sale of the "Learning with Herefords" DVD. An order form can be found on the AHW Web site. This DVD makes a wonderful gift, is a lot of fun, promotes Herefords and raises money for our youth programs!

The AHW officers and directors wish you and your family a very happy holiday season and all the

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

best in 2009. We look forward to creative new ideas and affiliations in 2009. Be sure to watch for your 2009 dues notice in January! **HW**

Thank You, Queens

by *Betsy Beck*, NOP chairman

Before I was elected to the National Organization of Poll-ettes (NOP) board, I didn't know very much about the National Polled Hereford Queen program other than observing the girls at the cattle shows.

After serving on the board for the past four years and being the national queen chairman for the past two years, I have gained so much more respect than I originally had for this program.

These girls are absolutely amazing! I'm not just talking about our current state queens; I'm referring to any girl who has served as a polled Hereford queen. Our polled Hereford queens aren't just a pretty face; they are our ambassadors.

I doubt if very many people realize just how knowledgeable these girls must be in order to represent our breed. They are given a list of 22 topics that they must know before they go through the

interview process. Some of those topics include whole herd reporting, embryo transplant, beef check-off program, herd synchronization, animal nutrition and their own farm/ranch bloodlines.

They also must know who the officers and directors are of the American Hereford Association, National Junior Hereford Association, NOP and their state associations, plus the members of the American Hereford Association staff. These are just a few of the many topics these girls must be able to discuss at any time.

They don't just escort classes, hand out ribbons/awards and pose for a picture; they are out there promoting our breed. So, the next time you see one of our queens, please reward her with a compliment by thanking her for all the work she does for us. **HW**

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
(608) 543-3778

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.*