

# New Board Members Announced

Dynamic women make for a dynamic organization. National Hereford Women (NHW) is blessed to have such innovative and dedicated women in its organization, and is thrilled to share the group's new board officers, and new board members.

At the NHW annual meeting we also recognized our 2012 Hereford Woman of the Year Ruth Espenscheid. See Page 39 for more about Ruth's dedication to NHW, Hereford youth and the Hereford breed.

## New board officers

During NHW's annual meeting on Nov. 1 at the American Royal complex in Kansas City, Mo., Mary Ann Berg, 2011-12 president, announced the 2012-13 officers: Denise Billman, Newcomerstown, Ohio, president; Lauren Echols, Arlington, Va., president-elect; Paula Acheson, Woodbine, Kan., vice president; Shellie Collins, Chattanooga, Okla., treasurer; and Susan Hayhurst, Terre Haute, Ind., secretary.

We are so grateful for our retiring directors, who have left a

wonderful legacy of commitment to NHW and Hereford youth including: Barbara Ernst, Windsor, Colo.; Jeanine Radel, Spring Green, Wis.; Diann Strickland, Mershon, Ga.; Ann Guess, Jayton, Texas; and Mary Ann Berg, Dalton, Ohio.

## New board members

Three women have joined the NHW board with each bringing a variety of expertise, leadership skills and enthusiasm to their new responsibilities.



**Carol**

**Carol Priefert, St. Joseph, Mich.**, is an active partner in her family's operation, Priefert Farms in Fairmont, Neb. The

farm has been involved in breeding polled Hereford cattle for more than 50 years and spans four generations. Priefert's Hereford background is extensive. She was active in the Nebraska Polled Hereford Association and showed Herefords at various local, state and national events. One of her prized possessions is her second edition "Poll-ette Cookbook" given to her by her Grandma Priefert.

She looks forward to her career in marketing, project management and business development helping her in committee assignments.

"I would like to see NHW continue to grow its membership and involvement from the state organizations and identify and bring to market new ways to raise money for programs. I especially want to lend a hand and encourage other people to continue the 30-plus year tradition of the best queen program in the cattle industry. Great state queens equal a strong national queen."

**Alise Nolan, Gilmer, Texas**, and her husband, Scott, and their daughters — Ilissa, Bethany and



**Alise**

Audrey — are avid Hereford enthusiasts. Alise is a member and past president of the Texas Hereford Auxiliary and past lead

advisor with her husband of the Texas Junior Hereford Association. She is currently the academic coordinator at Gilmer Intermediate School. She says she looks forward to serving on the NHW ways and means committee.

"I have watched as two national Hereford women groups became one. From a distance, I could tell the hard work and dedication each of the women on the initial committees had put toward the formation of the new NHW. Through my daughters, I appreciate NHW's programs. The leadership contests, scholarships and Bethany serving as National Hereford Queen helped mold my girls into what they are today."



**Beth**

**Beth Blinson, Buies Creek, N.C.**, and her husband, Bryan, oversee a third-generation Hereford farm that is operated

by their two girls, Rossie and Mason. Beth has been in the Hereford business since her teen years in Tennessee. She served as the Tennessee Polled Hereford Queen and is currently the vice president of the North Carolina Poll-ettes. Beth says their family vacations usually involve a cattle trailer and a show, but she enjoys the times making memories with her family.

"My passion is with the youth, our breed and advocating for youth programs. I am fortunate to be on the extemporaneous speech contest committee, a contest that I am very passionate about. I will also be working closely with Shellie Collins this year as I shadow the role of treasurer for the NHW board." **HW**

## National Hereford Women

### OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**President** – Denise Billman, *Newcomerstown, Ohio*

**President elect** – Lauren Echols, *Arlington, Va.*

**Vice president/membership chairwoman** – Paula Acheson, *Woodbine, Kan.*

**Secretary** – Susan Hayhurst, *Terre Haute, Ind.*

**Treasurer** – Shellie Collins, *Chattanooga, Okla.*

**Assistant treasurer** – Beth Blinson, *Buies Creek, N.C.*

**Parliamentarian** – Beth Burns, *Pikeville, Tenn.*

**Historian** – Lori Riffel-Hambright, *Chapman, Kan.*

**Queen co-chairwomen** – Jill Bielema, *Ada, Mich.*; Carol Priefert, *St. Joseph, Mich.*

**Ways and means chairwoman** – Denise Billman

**Communications** – Lori Riffel-Hambright

### DIRECTORS

Mary Ann Berg, *Dalton, Ohio* (ex officio)

Gay Maddox, *Zionsville, Ind.*

Shannon Mehaffey, *Grandview, Texas*

Alise Nolan, *Gilmer, Texas*

Catie Sims, *Oklahoma City, Okla.*