

Plan to Participate in Junior AI Program

Thank you Todd, Kim and Kasey Herman of Herman Cattle Co. for purchasing the street sign that goes in front of the American Hereford Association (AHA) office at this year's Ladies of the Royal Sale.

The Hermans have always supported Hereford youth. As Kim told me at the Royal, "Todd and I have always been all about the kids, you are the reason we do what we do with the Hereford Association."

Even though Kasey is too old to show, they continue giving their support and sponsorships so that our show and the juniors will be successful in all we do. So thank you so much Todd, Kim, and Kasey for your continued support.

The Junior AI (artificial insemination) Program is something many of you have heard of but actually may not have participated in. This program is a great opportunity for all juniors involved in the National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA).

Through the program, NJHA members are given a rare chance to have access to the genetics of Herefords' great sires that have been donated by progressive breeders from all over the nation. Juniors get the chance to choose from a wide variety of leading herd sires from great bloodlines. The list even includes some national winners.

You may think there is a catch to all of this, but there isn't. You receive the semen and semen certificates, all for free. You read that right — FREE, no charge to you except shipping expense, if needed. This program encourages youth to get involved with starting their own herds and helps with the breeding process, since it is a long-term project.

Now you may be wondering how you get involved in this fabulous Junior AI Program. Well, of course, you must be an NJHA member. (You should already be. Don't miss out on being a member of this great association. Membership renewal information was mailed to members in September.)

Next you must show a female at any qualifying junior show. This is any show where AHA offers a portion of the cash premiums or regional/state association shows that follow NJHA show rules and send exhibitor information to the AHA youth department.

Then you must nominate the heifer the calendar year after she was shown. You must do this by Jan. 15. Applications will be distributed in December and will be available on JrHereford.org.

Once you have been selected to receive semen on a certain bull, you will receive notification from the AHA youth department including information on how to obtain the semen. Note the registration of the calf born from the Junior AI Program semen is the same as normal AI calves.

The semen and certificate do not have to be used for the nominated female's first calf or for her individually. You can use the semen to breed any heifer in your herd.

I have participated in this program for many years and have been able to raise not only good show heifers that have done well but also many females to improve my herd. I want to encourage all NJHA members to participate. Just remember the application form is due Jan. 15. This form can be found on the NJHA website, JrHereford.org. Don't miss out on this opportunity to help grow your herd.

Also, from all of us on the NJHA board, we would like to wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year. **HW**



Chairman – Tamar Adcock,
tadcock@ksu.edu

Vice chairman – Krissi McCurdy,
krissim2011@gmail.com

Communications chair – Jaime Hanson,
jaime_lh_30@hotmail.com

Membership chair – Courtney Tribble,
triplefarm@comcast.net

Leadership chair – Keysto Stotz,
keysto-stotz@utulsa.edu

Fundraising chair – Shelby Rogers,
showingshelby@yahoo.com

Directors

Matt Woolfolk, matthewwoolfolk@gmail.com
Austin Buzanowski, abooze74@yahoo.com
Kristin Bielema, bielemak@msu.edu
Elise Hackett, elise.hackett@yahoo.com
Brady Jensen, basketballjensen@gmail.com
Jason May, jason.may@jacks.sdstate.edu

Director of youth activities

Amy Cowan
P.O. Box 014059, Kansas City, MO 64101
816-842-3757, acowan@hereford.org

JrHereford.org



2012-13 National Junior Hereford Association directors (pictured, l to r) are: Matt Woolfolk, Jason May, Kristin Bielema, Elise Hackett, Brady Jensen, Krissi McCurdy, Austin Buzanowski, Shelby Rogers, Keysto Stotz, Tamar Adcock, Jaime Hanson and Courtney Tribble.