

# Energy Continues for Legacy and Future of NHW

Activity and excitement thrived throughout the National Hereford Women (NHW) annual meeting and events during the American Royal in Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 31-Nov. 2.

## Preservation of the legacy

Since 2009 NHW has worked to preserve the history of numerous women dedicated to the Hereford breed since the late 1960s. NHW is continuously looking to improve the support provided to the Hereford breed and youth through events, contests and scholarships.

“The National Hereford Women, both past and present, are also wonderful examples of creating legacies of leadership, mentoring and purposeful encouragement of our Hereford youth,” says Susan Hayhurst, Terre Haute, Ind., NHW retired board member. “It is a privilege to be a part of such an industrious organization.”

Retiring from the board was a group of phenomenal ladies who were dedicated in passing the knowledge and tradition of NHW to new board members, while executing a variety of committees and additional projects. Retiring directors who were recognized included Denise Billman, Newcomerstown,

Ohio; Susan Hayhurst; Shannon Mehaffey, Grandview, Texas; and Catie Sims, Stillwater, Okla.

## Honoring the leadership

NHW was proud to honor Kay Morgan of Taylor, Neb., as the 2014 National Hereford Woman of the Year.

The nomination letter for Kay stated, “You can’t talk about Herefords in Nebraska for the past four decades without talking about Kay.” On a national level, Kay served as an integral part of the merger between the American Hereford Women and the Pollettes. She also led on the state level through a similar transition into the newly formed Nebraska Hereford Women, serving as a president. Over the past three decades, Kay has been secretary of the Nebraska Hereford Association and advisor for the Nebraska Junior Hereford Association, all while being an active part of the Morgan Ranch and a mother of four.

## Focusing on the future

The NHW board will continue to work through new ideas that engage Hereford breeders of all ages and to promote Hereford beef. During the weekend’s events, NHW hosted a Halloween party that gave Hereford youth of all ages the opportunity to participate in games, friendship and a little Halloween fun. The new event was deemed a success and is one the board will continue to improve.

As the room filled with membership during the annual meeting, a sense of excitement was present. “Both the energy and excitement of our retiring, existing and new board members was contagious throughout the weekend and in response to our ventures from the previous and those for the new year ahead,” says Alise Nolan, Gilmer, Texas, 2014-15 NHW president. The first introduction of the new board

members included Rhonda Eck, Thomas, Okla.; Jill Folkman, Ixonia, Wis.; Kim Herinckx, Lafayette, Ore.; and Barbra Metch, Canton, Texas.

The NHW annual membership meeting had strong attendance. Alise was excited to see the diversity in veteran and new members of the organization present. “I am continually impressed each time we meet as Hereford breeders and NHW members that we reconnect just as if we saw each other the day before,” Alise says. “This is one of the reasons NHW has been successful. I am looking forward to the new year with this group of women, as we are excited and ready to continue to enhance the visibility and programs that are supported by NHW, the American Hereford Association and the National Junior Hereford Association.”

The 2013-14 National Hereford Queen, Brooke Jensen, gave her closing comments about her year representing the breed. Brooke lead the impressive lineup of 2015 National Hereford Queen candidates in their official introduction to NHW membership.

“The coveted title of National Hereford Queen is one that is highly sought after. These girls work hard to get here,” says Carol Priefert, national queen chairwoman.

On Nov. 2, prior to the selection of the 2014 American Royal National Hereford Show champion bull, Katie Nolles, Bassett, Neb., was named the 2014-15 National Hereford Queen.

Carol says each candidate should be proud of their accomplishments. “The exceptional candidates that participated in this year’s contest are a testament to the NHW Queen Program and experiences these young ladies are having throughout our country representing the Hereford breed.” **NHW**

## National Hereford Women

### OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**President** – Alise Nolan, *Gilmer, Texas*

**President elect** – Maddee Moore, *Pendleton, Ore.*

**Vice president** – Becky Spindle, *Moriarty, N.M.*

**Treasurer** – Beth Blinson, *Buies Creek, N.C.*

**Secretary** – Michelle Beran, *Clafin, Kan.*

**Historian** – Suzanne Matheny, *Mays Lick, Ky.*

**Queen chair** – Carol Priefert, *St. Joseph, Mich. (ex officio)*

**Ways and means chair** – Alise Nolan

**Communications** – Maddee Moore

### DIRECTORS

Lauren Echols, *Breckenridge, Texas*

Rhonda Eck, *Putnam, Okla.*

Jill Folkman, *Ixonia, Wisconsin*

Kim Henrickx, *Lafayette, Ore.*

Barbara Metch, *Canton, Texas*

[HerefordWomen.com](http://HerefordWomen.com)