



Kohlbeck Named AHW Woman of the Year



American Hereford Women

Kathy Storey Kohlbeck, Bozeman, Mont., was recognized as the American Hereford Women (AHW) Woman of the Year at the 2006 AHW annual meeting, Oct. 21, in Kansas City, Mo.

Kathy is a third-generation Hereford breeder. Her grandparents — Wilbur and Hilda Storey — started in the registered Hereford business in 1935, making Storey Hereford Ranch one of the oldest Hereford operations in Montana.

Actively involved in the Hereford business her entire life, Kathy is a true promoter of Herefords and Hereford youth. In 1996 she was elected to the AHW board of directors. While on the board she served in numerous officer positions, including *Feedbox* editor, historian, parliamentarian, director and president-elect. In 2001 she served on the transition Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) board. From 1999-2002 she chaired the strategic

planning committee, a joint AHW/National Organization of Poll-ettes (NOP) committee. Kathy is also a past president of the Montana Hereford Auxiliary.

Kathy Geffert, retiring AHW treasurer, presented the Woman of the Year award to Kathy. "She is such a neat lady and was my mentor when I went on the board," Geffert says.

While growing up, Kathy was involved in the Park Gallatin Hereford Association, which at one time boasted having 35,000 head of registered Herefords in a 30-mile radius. Kathy's grandmother Hilda

started the first Hereford auxiliary in the U.S.

Kathy's parents — Jim and Betty Storey — were active in the Montana Hereford Association and Auxiliary; this involvement opened the doors for her to participate in many Hereford activities.

In 1963 Kathy became a charter member of the Montana Junior Hereford Association (MJHA). She played a big part in the establishment and writing of the constitution. A member of the MJHA board from 1967-69, she served in many officer positions.

As a junior member, Kathy was editor of the Montana Hereford Directory from 1969-71; this source of funding sent many MJHA juniors to the American Junior Hereford Association (AJHA) national convention. She attended several national conventions, competing in the speech contest. She served on the AJHA board from 1969-71, the first Montana junior elected to the national board.

Kathy's dad always tells the story of putting her on a plane to attend a field day in Texas. As she was about to board the plane he asked if she had enough spending money and she replied that she



Kathy Storey Kohlbeck, Bozeman, Mont., left, was recognized as the 2006 AHW Woman of the Year. Pictured presenting the award is Kathy Geffert, retiring AHW treasurer.

2006-07 AHW board of directors (pictured front row, l to r) are: Terrill Spencer, Brewster, Neb., president; Bonnie Coley-Malir, Dublin, Ohio, president-elect; Cheryl Evans, Winona, Miss., vice president; Susan Turner, Rochester, Texas, secretary; and Marsha Middleswarth, Torrington, Wyo., past president. In the back row (l to r) are: Barb Wilkinson, Johnstown, Colo., treasurer; Debby Mrnak, Bowman, N.D., historian; JoAnn Lawrence, Coon Rapids, Minn., parliamentarian; and Deb Carlson, Royal Center, Ind., director/courtesy. Not pictured are Kay Morgan, Burwell, Neb., newsletter; Gail Blagg, Grass Valley, Calif., director; and Donna Fulton, Lexington, N.C., director.





Marsha Middleswarth, 2005-06 AHW president, presided over the AHW annual meeting on Oct. 21. More than 50 ladies attended the brunch.

had plenty. Well come to find out she left with \$4 in her pocket and returned after 10 days with \$3. In those days breeders would have the junior directors stay in their homes, where they would take care of them like they were their own kids. Then they would take them to the next event and pass them on to the next host ranch.

After graduating from Montana State University (MSU) with a degree in ag production/animal science in 1972, Kathy worked for the Farm Credit Bank in Spokane, Wash., as public relations coordinator. In that position she won several national awards for advertising.

Since 1983 she has worked as MSU's Strand Student Union marketing manager. She has served as Park Gallatin Hereford Association secretary since 1988, the first woman to be elected to the board. Kathy also was a member of the 2001 Junior National Hereford Expo (JNHE) planning committee, when Montana hosted the JNHE in Billings.

After meeting him at a bull sale, Kathy married Chuck Kohlbeck and returned to the ranch in 1982. They continue to operate Storey Hereford Ranch LLP with Kathy's father at the original headquarters near Bozeman. Kathy is involved in the day-to-day operation of the ranch and does all the promotion and ad layouts.

Chuck and Kathy have one daughter, Katelyn, a junior at Bozeman High School. Katelyn plays club volleyball and is an eight-year 4-H member, showing



Sherry Pope-Smith, past president, and Debby Mrnak, historian, unveil the new past president plaque, which will be displayed at the AHA office.

steers and heifers at open and MJHA events around the state.

Vickie Bishop says, "No matter the situation, you can depend on Kathy to have the juniors' best interest at heart and she will pitch right in until the job is done."

Vickie's daughter, Kristi, who was president of the MJHA during the planning of the 2001 JNHE, adds, "She was always the juniors' biggest promoter and advocate. Kathy was always there backing us up — one hard workin' woman." **HW**

A Hereford Legacy

Hereford breeders attending the American Hereford Association (AHA) Annual Meeting on Oct. 23 had a chance to preview "A Hereford Legacy" featuring Bud Snidow, former AHA employee and current historical representative. The DVD spotlights significant moments in Hereford history, the AHA headquarters, and a segment on Snidow, his life, his work and his paintings. For the past 20-plus years Snidow has continued to be involved in the Hereford industry, pursuing the future while preserving the history. DVDs are \$20 plus shipping; contact Cheryl Evans at (662) 283-3337 to order a copy. Proceeds benefit the Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA).



Bud Snidow signs a copy of the new AHW-sponsored "A Hereford Legacy" DVD, which features Hereford history and includes a segment about Snidow.

