



Hereford Breeders Meet in Kansas City

Hereford members celebrated another year of successes and growth, honored breeders and youth and set the course for 2018 at the American Hereford Association Annual Meeting and Conference.

Hereford members and breeders from across the country gathered Oct. 27-29 in Kansas City, Mo., for a weekend to honor deserving breeders, hear from industry leaders, conduct American Hereford Association (AHA) business and attend Hereford activities at the American Royal.

This year, the AHA hosted an expanded industry trade show and extended educational forum to kick off the weekend at The Westin Kansas City at Crown Center, connecting Hereford

breeders with allied partners and industry experts. On Friday, more than 300 Hereford enthusiasts attended the trade show and an accompanying educational forum.

Friday morning's general session covered breed improvement updates, including the updated genetic evaluation, followed by a lunch and second general session on the National Junior Hereford Association (NJHA) Fed Steer Shootout. On Friday afternoon, the forum offered

six breakout sessions to cover a variety of relevant topics including the AHA strategic plan, estate planning, Hereford-influenced feeder calf marketing, brand development and marketing, legislative updates and a Certified Hereford Beef (CHB®) consumer panel. See Page 36 for a summary of the sessions.

Celebrating legacies and honoring youth

Following the trade show and educational forum, members and guests enjoyed the Hereford Honorees Reception at The Gallery in downtown Kansas City. During the event, Hall of Fame, Hall of Merit, Century Breeder, Golden Breeder, NJHA Fed Steer Shootout and scholarship winners were honored.

During the reception, Lester Schafer, Buffalo Lake, Minn., and Byron Bayers, Twin Bridges, Mont., were inducted into the Hereford Hall of Fame, and Eddie Sims, Elgin, Okla., and Dwayne Dietz, Billings, Mont., was inducted into the Hereford Hall of Merit (see Page 44).

Annual Meeting and American Royal Coverage

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In celebration of 100 years in the Hereford business, Schafer was also honored as a Century Hereford Breeder. Golden Breeder awards were presented to David Smith, Upper Sandusky, Ohio; Tru-La-Da Ranch, Fieldon, Ill.; NS Polled Herefords, Shaker Heights, Ohio; Hot Iron Enterprises, Mt. Gilead, Ohio; JC Cattle Co., Norman, Ind.; and WCN Polled Herefords, Burkesville, Ky. (see Page 43).

The NJHA recognized winners in the first Fed Steer Shootout (see Page 50) and BioZyme, Inc. presented a \$14,671 check to the Hereford Youth Foundation of America (HYFA) through the Feed the Future program (see Page 42). To conclude the awards ceremony, HYFA awarded \$ 147,500 in scholarships to NJHA members (see Page 46).

Membership elects directors

The Annual Membership Meeting began Saturday morning with delegates electing three new directors and the announcement of new officers.

Elected to serve as AHA Directors for the next four years are Nate

Frederickson, Spearfish, S.D.; Mark St. Pierre, El Nido, Calif.; and Joe Waggoner, Carthage, Miss. Leading the AHA in 2018 will be Kevin Schultz, Haviland, Kan., as president and Pete Atkins, Tea, S.D. as vice president (see Page 40). In addition, AHA committee chairmen presented program updates to the membership during the Annual Meeting.

NHW hosts meeting

The National Hereford Women (NHW) hosted its annual meeting Saturday afternoon, where members elected new board members and announced NHW officers (see NHW board photo on Page 52). The highlight of the meeting was the recognition of the 2017 Hereford Woman of the Year, Jean Priefert, Fairmont, Neb.

Sale averages \$5,780

The Ladies of the Royal Sale hosted a large crowd at Wagstaff Arena Oct. 28 at the American Royal complex. The sale once again presented a strong offering of open and bred females along with some select frozen embryo



lots. As the gavel fell silent, 18 females had walked the ring with an average of \$5,780 and 16 embryos averaged \$773 per embryo. For more sale highlights, see Page 61.

Herefords in the ring

On Sunday morning, Brian Barragree, Absarokee, Mont., sorted the 193-head open show. For the American Royal National Hereford Show results and highlights, see Page 58. Complete placings are online at Hereford.org.

Hereford junior exhibitors led 64 head before judge Blake Nelson, Platte City, Mo., following the Ladies of the Royal Sale Saturday evening.

Hereford exhibitors were also recognized during the open show for showcasing their breeding programs at national and regional shows throughout the past year. Awards for champion national and regional Hereford show bull, show female and premier exhibitor were presented to exhibitors. See Page 56 for a list of this year's winners.

National Hereford Queen crowned

Following the selection of the champion female, Abbygail Pitstick, South Solon, Ohio, was crowned the 2017-18 National Hereford Queen.

Abbygail will spend the next year as the face of the Hereford breed and as an agriculture advocate. She competed against six other state queens for the title. First runner-up honors went to Megan Marion, Bainbridge, Ind.; Devin Bollman, Bellaire, Texas, was named second runner-up; and Rachael Bagnell, Slater, Mo., was selected as Miss Congeniality. (see Page 54). **HW**

