Owned females
Jarold Callahan, Yukon, Okla., was born on a farm and ranch in Welch, Okla., and graduated as one of the top 10 students in the College of Agriculture at Oklahoma State University (OSU).

Upon graduation, he became an instructor at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M. He received his master’s degree in agriculture from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. In 1981 he joined the faculty at OSU and was an assistant professor in the animal science department, where he taught several courses and coached the livestock judging team.

In 1991 Callahan became the executive vice president of the Oklahoma Cattlemen’s Association. He joined Express Ranches in 1996 as the chief operations officer and is now president of Express Ranches.

Owned female associate
Donnie Robertson, Yukon, Okla., was born and raised in Lexington, Ky. For the past 25 years, he has been employed by Express Ranches of Yukon — the beef industry’s largest source of seedstock bulls and females. Robertson is currently the vice president of marketing at Express Ranches.

He has judged numerous shows across the country including the National Western Stock Show (NWSS), the North American International Livestock Expo (NAILE), the American Royal, the Fort Worth Stock Show (FWSS), the Houston Livestock Show, and the National Junior Shorthorn Show. In addition to his career and judging, Robertson enjoys showing cattle with his two children, Taylor and Austin.

Bred-and-owned females and cow-calf pairs
Shane Werk, Manhattan, Kan., grew up in west central Minnesota and became a lifelong Hereford breeder. His grandfather started in the registered Hereford business in the late 1940s. Werk served as the National Junior Hereford Association chairman in 2003.

Werk was a member of two very successful judging teams at Butler Community College and Kansas State University (K-State). During his collegiate judging career, he was awarded high individual in cattle at the American Royal and was part of the reserve national champion team for K-State in 2009.

He formerly worked at McCurry Angus Ranch, when the ranch successfully exhibited champions at NWSS, NAILE, the American Royal, Western States Angus Show and the National Junior Angus Show. He is currently the manager of the purebred beef unit at K-State and maintains his own personal cow herd of registered Hereford and Angus and commercial cows. He and his wife, Ashlie, have a daughter, Nora, who will be 2 years old in August, and a son, Brooks, who will turn 6 months old in July.

Steers and bulls
Matt Copeland, Nara Visa, N.M., owns and operates Copeland Herefords and Copeland Show Cattle. He received his animal science degree from OSU.

Copeland Herefords is a family operation running 600 registered and commercial Hereford cows along with 100 club-calf cows. The Copelands have four production sales each year — two female sales and one steer sale in the fall, and a bull sale in the spring.

Copeland’s crew has exhibited and sold numerous national and state fair champions, as well as earning primeire Hereford breeder at both the NWSS and FWSS in both 2015 and 2018. Copeland has judged at the NWSS, the FWSS, the NAILE, the Western States Hereford Show, the Houston Livestock Show, the Oklahoma Youth Expo, the Kansas Beef Expo, the Ohio Beef Expo, numerous junior nationals and several state and local shows.

Peeewee and junior showmanship
Taylor Frank, El Dorado, Kan., grew up in northern Colorado with a diversified livestock background, primarily raising and showing cattle and hogs. Through his start in FFA, he became active in livestock judging, which took him to Butler Community College and then to Texas Tech University.

After competing on livestock judging teams at each school, he took a position at Butler Community College, where he has coached the livestock judging team for four years, with his team earning Team of the Year three of those four years.

Senior and intermediate showmanship
Brandon and Rachel Cutrer, Wharton, Texas, are Brahman breeders from the Gulf Coast, where they are part of V8 Ranch. As a youth exhibitor, Rachel was a two-time national champion showmanship winner of the Brahman breed and a four-time showmanship winner at the Shorthorn Junior National.

Brandon and Rachel met while Brandon was the herdsman at Mississippi State University working with the Smith Brahman show cattle herd in Louisiana. Brandon and Rachel own approximately 300 head of registered Brahman cattle and were named Beef Improvement Federation Seedstock Producer of the Year in 2012. Brandon is one of the primary showmen for V8 Ranch, where he has personally exhibited five grand champions at the Houston Livestock Show in the last eight years.