

## Vantage Point

Every peak leaves a valley in its wake and gives way to another directly below — both views are worthy of attention.



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A year has come and gone with the same swiftness as a Missouri summer rainstorm. I must admit I have experienced just as much culture shock moving from California to Texas and then to Missouri as I have while traveling abroad, but I have enjoyed every second of adjusting to my new home in the Midwest. I even made it through my first tornado warning, although I had to be reminded not to take cover under a desk.

When I started at the American Hereford Association (AHA), I was immediately drawn to the breed's longstanding history depicted in the artwork and artifacts displayed throughout the office. There was something captivating about our history, and I knew I wanted to share that feeling with our readers.

Recently I stumbled across a passage from Hayes Walker which perfectly describes the draw I felt toward Hereford's history. In an introduction to *Hazelton's History and Hand Book of Hereford Cattle and Hereford Bull Index*, 1935, Walker says:

*"There is romance in the Hereford breed. Its story is one of ambition and of discouragement, of failures and of successes, and Mr. Hazelton has sensed this romance in his references to the beginnings and successes of different herds and of different men. This romance may be there only in suggestion, but it is there — and it is readable and interesting and entertaining."*

Without a doubt, Walker conveyed this romance in his editorial when he established the *American Hereford Journal* 110 years ago. The essence of the Hereford breed has allowed its publications to stand the test of time, providing readable, interesting and entertaining content that will continue to thrive.

### In this issue

I certainly have a soft spot for history, as did the man who said the following: "Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity."

General George S. Patton's words could not be more fitting for this issue. The 96th Annual Herd Bull and Reference Edition features an outstanding team of writers — and an exceptional designer — who never fail to exceed my expectations.

Join us in "the Hereford Drive," which showcases Hereford's pioneering spirit in a special section beginning on Page 54. These tales describe Hereford's tie to the Kansas City Stockyards (Page 70), the legacy of Willard Wolf (Page 80), and the perspective of the breed from the block (Page 112).

While we could write a manuscript of all the Hereford breeders who embody this month's theme, we could only share a few. Discover some of the breed's innovative and progressive families on Pages 92, 102 and 122.

With roots dating back more than 300 years, "timeless" is certainly a warranted descriptor of our beloved breed. The AHA thanks pencil artist Dino Cornay for donating his original drawing "Timeless" to headline a special live auction at "The Brand" Marketing Summit (Page 43) — Timeless also graces the cover of this issue.

This first year as editor has been filled with just as many successes as mistakes, and I appreciate everyone's patience as I grow into this role. I look forward to another year of serving the membership and contributing to the legacy of this publication. On behalf of the Hereford Publications Inc. team, we hope you enjoy this special edition of the *Hereford World*. May your summer be bright and your smile brighter. **HW**