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Women | Hereford Women Recognized by Marlena Ballinger at Annual Meeting

The National Hereford Women (NHW) held its annual meeting on Friday, Oct. 21, at the Kansas City Loews Hotel and Convention Center. The meeting included keynote speaker, Chelsea Good; the Hereford Woman of the Year award presentation: the nomination of three new board directors and well wishes for the three retiring board members.

Chelsea is an advocate for the interests of livestock auctions in federal, state and industry policy. She is the Livestock Marketing Association's vice president of government and industry affairs and legal. Chelsea spoke on her journey towards this prominent position. Her speech gave attendees, both young and old, several key pieces of advice on how to achieve your dreams.

Woman of the Year

Donna Curry was honored posthumously as the Hereford Woman of the Year. Donna, a



OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS President: Briley Miller, Newcastle, Wyo. Vice president: Kathy Bryan, Garrison, Texas President-elect: Sally Wingler, Christiana, Tenn. Secretary: Beth Mansfield, Liberty, Tenn. Treasurer: Melinda Watson, Flemingsburg, Ky. 6196 Mt. Sterling Rd., Flemingsburg, KY 41041 Ex Officio: Shannon Worrell, Mason, Texas

DIRECTORS

Marlena Ballinger, Bluffton, Ohio Bridget Beran, Claflin, Kan. Abbygail Pitstick, South Solon, Ohio. Cameron Kolinski, Patrick Springs, Va. Bellana Putz, Otley, Iowa Stephanie Murnin, Musselshell, Mont. Brandi Murphree, Hamilton, Texas

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woman dedicated to her faith and family, was from McAlester, Okla. She adored her Hereford family and served on the NHW board with love for others and a true dedication to youth.

This award could not have gone to a more deserving woman. Curry's family was in attendance to accept her award.

Meet the board

NHW welcomed three new board members: Brandi Murphree, Bellana Putz and Stephanie Murnin.

Brandi joins the NHW from Hamilton, Texas. Along with her husband, Jake, and their two sons, Zeb and Jace, she owns three small businesses and a ranch. The ranch consists of a commercial cow-calf operation and registered Herefords. Brandi's family also owns a meat company.

Bellana is from Otley, Iowa. She is married to Don. With their three boys, the couple owns and operates Putz Cattle and Working Aussies. Bellana has always been passionate about the Hereford breed and is proud of her boys who continue to compete in the VitaFerm® Junior National Hereford Expo - showing cattle and participating in contests.

Stephanie lives in Musselshell, Mont., and along with her husband, she owns and operates Bar Star Cattle. The couple raises Hereford and commercial cattle in the Bull Mountains. Stephanie, a lifelong Hereford breeder, served on the National Junior Hereford Association board and reigned as the Ohio Polled Hereford Queen in 1999. Her children continue the tradition by showing Hereford cattle.

With the election of three new board members, NHW must say goodbye to three retiring members. Betsy Pitstick, Nikki Rogers and Shannon Worrell were each presented a golden cow for their four years of

dedicated service. NHW is grateful for their passion and dedication to the Hereford breed.

Weekend festivities

On Saturday, the NHW board attended the American Royal Center for the annual Ladies of the Royal sale. NHW presented its Lot 2 in the sale, which was pick of either a hand-crafted rustic bench or a rare 19th century Zanzibar dowry chest. Pick of the bench or dowry chest sold for \$11,000, with two partners doubling down and taking both items for \$22,000. A huge thank you goes out to Kay Knight of Kay Knight Designs for designing an exquisite ruby Hereford pendent that was raffled off by NHW. Erin Lockhart of College Station, Texas, won the necklace.

On Sunday, NHW prepared a delicious Mexican fiesta breakfast prior to the National Hereford Queen coronation. This year's crown went to Madison Katzenberger. Madison is from Monroe, Wis., and will represent the Hereford breed around the country. Along with her tiara, she won a \$10,000 NHW scholarship.

First runner-up was Jalyn Davis from Maple Hill, Kan.; second runner-up was Elizabeth Crumm from Anadarko, Okla.; third runnerup was Kennedy Montag from Grimes, Iowa; and Miss Congeniality went to Jaclyn Aiken from Telford, Tenn. Congratulations, ladies, for your continued support to the breed and organization.

This year's annual meeting was held in a different format — another example of innovation from NHW. Watch for bigger and better things to continue in 2023. HW

To join and to learn more about the NHW, visit HerefordWomen.com or email nationalherefordwomen@gmail.com.