

# Montana Hereford News

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## From Your Outgoing President, Dale Sand

Fellow Cattlemen and women,

I am writing to inform you that as President of the MHA, I am resigning my position. This comes with mixed feelings. It has been our family's decision to relocate to Frenchtown, Mt. to allow for better career opportunities for both Heather and I. I am going to continue working as a heavy equipment operator for a large construction/evacuation company based out of Missoula with the corporate headquarters in Dublin, Ireland. We have sold our cattle at this point but will always have an open door for a new Hereford cattle opportunity in the future. I will finish out the year as a board member but feel I wouldn't be able to give 110% to the presidency position. As you all know, moving the family, finding a home, and just working day to day can be very demanding and time consuming. As I said before, our door is always open for the Hereford community.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to help lead this great association and for understanding my next step in the long road of life.

Thank you and God bless,

Dale Sand

## MHA Calendar

August 3 - Montana State Fair, Great Falls, 10:00 a.m. Junior Hereford Show followed by the Open Show

August 11 - Montana Fair, Billings, 10:00 a.m. Junior Hereford Show followed by the Open Show

October 18 - NILE, Billings, 8:00 a.m. Junior Hereford Show followed by the Open Show

November 3 - MHA Convention, Bozeman

Hope to see you there!!

## You have 2 weeks to renew your membership

You have two weeks to renew your membership in order to be included in the Montana Hereford Association's advertising for the year and to also be included in the MHA Map Poster we are distributing around the state. The following list is a list of 2007 paid members. If your name is not on the list, please fill out the form that I have enclosed with this newsletter and return it to me with your dues within the next two weeks (Mid July)

With your paid membership, our webmaster, Ace Diemert, has agreed to put all the information you provide him regarding your operation, directions to your ranch, the marketing of your cattle or any other information you would like visitors to the MHA website see on our website.

Please return the form filled out as detailed as you would like with your dues right away, we don't want you to miss out on the advertising opportunities we are working on for this year. If you have any questions or suggestions, just let me or one of your directors know.

Andras Family	Jackson Polled Herefords
Antelope Creek Cattle Co.	K.L. Slagsvold Herefords
Banjo Ranch	M & D Herefords
Bayers Hereford Ranch	McMurry Cattle
Beery Land & Livestock Co.	McKechnie Hereford Ranch
Bill Pelton Livestock Agency	Merrimac Cattle Company
Broesder Ranch Inc.	Dr. Michael MacNeil
Broken Pick Land & Cattle Co.	Dick & Karen Miller
Chacon Ranch	MJB Ranch
Dallas Polled Herefords	Sand Herefords
Cory Dutton	Sidwell Ranch
Dutton Hereford Ranch	Snowshoe Cattle Co.
Ehlke Herefords	Sparks Herefords
Elings Polled Hereford	Tomlinson Herefords
Haxton Ranch	Westwind Ranch
J Bar E Ranch	Wichman Herefords

Once again, if your name is not on this list, please fill out the membership form and return it to me with your 2007 dues as soon as possible.

Thank You, Lorrie

"We make a living by what we get; We make a life by what we give." Unknown

## Happenings with the MHA & AHA

### Plans underway for MHA Annual Convention

Mark your calendars for November 3, 2007 to be in Bozeman, MT for the Montana Hereford Association Annual Convention. The committee is working very hard to bring to you an informative and entertaining annual convention. If you have any ideas for suggestions for the convention, let one of the board members know. As we finalize more information, we will let you know. See you in Bozeman on November 3rd.

### Montana Delegates needed for 2007 Annual Convention in Kansas City

Individuals interested in going to Kansas City as a Montana Delegate at the annual convention, please notify Lorrie or a board member.

**"It is not doing what you like, but liking what you do that is the secret of happiness." James Barrie**

### Register Online for Hereford Young Guns Conference

KANSAS CITY, Mo. --- Register today! Three fun-filled days await Hereford producers ages 22-45 at the third Hereford Young Guns Conference, Aug. 22-24, at Harrah's North Kansas City Hotel and Casino. Interested participants may register online at [www.hereforyoungguns.com](http://www.hereforyoungguns.com).

"The Young Guns conference is a great venue for producers to network, socialize and learn from each other," says Craig Huffines, American Hereford Association executive vice president. "As a breed we have accomplished a great deal since our first Young Guns meeting in 2001, and we are excited to bring the young producers back to Kansas City."

The program features energetic speakers who are leaders in the beef industry. Sessions will range from Hereford efficiency to the effect of ethanol on the beef industry and how the Hereford breed is measuring up in research projects across the nation.

The conference will recap highlights of the first Young Guns Conference in 2001 and will focus on what the breed has accomplished in terms of regaining market share and breed direction. Conference attendees will gain valuable marketing ideas and learn from industry friends about tools and programs available to seedstock and commercial Hereford producers.

A welcome reception hosted by The PTP Alliance, will help kick off the event Wednesday evening. Highlighting the evening's festivities will be keynote speaker and comedian Mark Mayfield, Smithville, Mo. Raised on a farm, he received two degrees from Kansas State University and is a past president of the National FFA Organization.

Thursday continues the Young Guns conference with an information-packed morning. A panel of experts will discuss the effect of ethanol on the Hereford industry. Panel speakers will include Ron Plain, University of Missouri-Columbia, and Kelly Bruns, South Dakota University. Cattle-Fax representative, Kevin Good, will address ethanol from an economic standpoint and will provide some statistics and economic analysis of the marketplace.

Purina Mills will provide a buffet lunch and guest speaker, N. T. Cosby, who is a consulting nutritionist with Purina. Cosby will talk about the importance of proper nutrition and the effects it has on efficiency.

The afternoon panel discussion will focus on "Herefords — The Efficiency Experts." Speakers will include: Mark Allan, U.S. Department of Agriculture Meat Animal Research Center (MARC); Dan Moser, Kansas State University; and Monty Kerley, University of Missouri-Columbia.

Rounding out the day's session will be a discussion on current Hereford research projects. Dave Daley, California State University, Chico; Mark Aiken, Circle A Ranch; and John McGraff, Amana Farms, will discuss the projects they are involved with and why they chose Herefords.

That evening, Ron and Kim Findley of Findley Farms, Pleasant Hill, Mo., will welcome conference attendees to their farm. The evening will include a steak dinner sponsored by Gallagher Animal Management Systems and live working demonstrations featuring the latest Gallagher technology.

Marketing will be the focus Friday morning. The Marketing 101 session and discussion on Certified Hereford Beef (CHB) LLC and Hereford Verified will include speakers: Rance Long, Thomas Angus; Ryan Topp, Topp Herefords; Bob Harrell, Harrell Herefords; Art Wagner, National Beef Packing Co. LLC; and Danny Herrmann, Ford County Feedyard Inc. Following the panel, participants will have a chance to share their ideas in round-table discussions. Vermeer Manufacturing is sponsoring the noon meal.

Hotel reservations may be made at Harrah's North Kansas City Hotel and Casino. For reservations call (800) 427-7247 and refer to group code S8HERFD. The room rate is \$89 per night, however, cutoff for room block and conference registration is Aug. 1, so don't delay. Look for a registration form in the July *Hereford World* or register online at [www.hereforyoungguns.com](http://www.hereforyoungguns.com)

## Carmichael Hereford Meeting - South Dakota

Several Montana Hereford breeders, commercial and registered both made the trip 40 miles south of Lemmon South Dakota for the meeting put on by the Carmichael family along with the North and South Dakota Hereford Associations and Hereford America. The meeting was held to gather Hereford breeders with some major feeders, our Kansas City representation, and a few others to answer questions we have as Hereford breeders and try to get a feel or sense of direction. Tom Sparks, Matt and Eddy Beery, Steve and Lester Nichols, Byron Bayers, Scott Wessel, and Ace Diemert all from Montana were in attendance. There were two panels one consisting of 4 feedlot owners and the other panel was made up of the Kansas City fellas along with Byron Bayers.

I felt the feeders gave the most informative presentation and answered some pretty good questions. One question I asked Dennis Schilz from McGinley-Shilz Feedyard in Brule Nebraska was “why is a straight Hereford steer calf not always on par with a black hided steer going into a feedlot as far as price and how did that mentality come about?” Dennis plainly answered that when we first got a grading system Hereford cattle were synonymous with yield grade 4’s and that was where the whole mentality came from. He went on to say that is not an issue today for Hereford cattle or any other major beef breed because they can manage them in the feedlot and avoid it. As far as being on par for price he said it basically comes down to competition – they have many more avenues to go with feeding black hided cattle and only a couple with straight Hereford steers. CHB, being one of the available avenues, a branded Select product usually falls short when compared to CAB a branded choice product because today in the retail business and the eye of the American consumer “Choice” is the safe and popular buy. Another reason he gave was that in his experience a pen of typical straight Hereford steers would have a lower percentage hit choice compared to the typical pen of black hided steers.

Another question posed to all the feeders was “Shouldn’t our Hereford calves be worth more going into the feedlot because of the feed efficiency qualities our breed has?” All the feeders agreed that feed efficiency in the feedlot is important and they do spend less feeding Hereford cattle and with corn and other grain prices going up it will become more important... but, they all said that the pens of straight Hereford steers have a lower percentage hit choice and the money they make on that choice/select spread with black hided cattle is still worth more than what they save feeding Hereford steers. In fact, they could not even quantify that value or know where that threshold is.

OK – some of my thoughts. In my opinion the AHA is preaching to a choir about feed efficiency that isn’t ready to listen. I think we need to know where that feed efficiency threshold is in the feedlot before we spend all our money on an efficiency campaign that as of right now is not hitting home with the feeders. I feel that most ranchers in this country understand heterosis and our heterosis campaign didn’t hit home. I think they also know that Hereford cattle are hardier and more efficient but why does it seem that more and more Hereford herds are turning black. To me it comes down to the simple fact that we don’t have the avenues to go with our cattle that the Black hided cattle do. Marshall Earnst informed us that the AHA is in the process of hiring a person to sell our product and the story behind it and gave me some hope when he started talking about their plan to establish more avenues for Hereford influenced cattle. But what upset me was when he said they found what they thought was the person for the job but only matched what another beef program headquartered in his home town offered. Maybe we could have allocated some of our Efficiency campaign budget to get him hired. I don’t know. Mark Largent said it best “We need to hire the best person possible.”

Warren Woroniecki from North Dakota was also on the feeder panel and is an individual I felt was in a unique situation to answer a lot of questions as he did. To me what made his operation unique is that his cow/calf operation is a Hereford one and they feed all their own cattle along with others. So the question I wanted to know of Warren was “as a manager of a cow/calf operation and a feedlot how do you select bulls to satisfy both operations? Do you select bulls on carcass traits that will improve your cattle in the feedlot or do you select for traits more important to maintaining your cowherd and replacement females because when you put more emphasis on carcass traits usually your replacements are not as easy doing or fertile? Warren said it is a balance. He said he would select a bull that fits what he wants to use to maintain his cowherd and that bull has to have around a REA/CWT of 1.10 or around a 13.5 actual REA along with an actual marbling score of 3.00 or higher. His answer wasn’t anything that surprised me and was what I thought was a sound method but what made me laugh was how many bull sales or private treaty sales can you go to and actually get that information. How many purebred breeders lay all that actual raw information on the table and let the commercial man select from it before they manipulate it with contemporary groups and indexes to make it read however they want. I think the commercial producers need to have all that actual raw carcass data if we are going to make up that choice/select spread the feeders all told us about.

Another issue that caused me some concern was touched on by Craig Huffhines when he told us about a cooperator herd consisting of 40,000 Angus cows for Tyson determined that they needed a shot of heterosis to get their productivity on these cattle back to where it needed to be on the ranch and in the feedlot. Huffhines told us that this cooperator herd was trying to decide between using Hereford or Charolais influence to do the job. Huffhines stated that the Charolais Association and the Hereford Association both sent 12 bulls respectively to use in this herd and they could decide from the progeny of those bulls which way they would go. I wondered why wasn’t there a national search for the best potential bulls to send to this cooperator herd. I read almost everything the AHA puts out for news and I hadn’t heard about this once. I might be wrong but I think actions like this make the average Hereford breeder in this country question our leadership and wonder if every opportunity that comes along for our breed is kept in house with the big boys whether the cattle are right or not.

To summarize, this meeting was worth the trip. You are not alone with the frustrations most Hereford breeders have. I left the meeting with more questions than when I arrived and I think the AHA has a lot of work to do establishing competitive markets for our product with a limited budget and the purebred breeders need to quit offering the cattle that don’t make the grade.

Sumbitted by Ace Diemert

## Letter from the MJHA President

Greetings! My name is Austin Buzanowski and I have been elected President of the Montana Junior Hereford Association. I have been involved with Herefords since the day I was born. I have seen numerous Hereford shows sitting in a stroller and running around with all the older kids when I could barely walk. I am grateful to have this opportunity. During my year in office I hope to increase membership, get more kids involved and above all have fun. The next thing that we juniors have coming up is Junior National in Denver, Colorado. There are 8 juniors going with 24 head entered and more juniors going without cattle. I am planning on us all having a good time hanging out, meeting new people, and of course having fun because Jr. National's is the place to be. I have gone many times and I have met a lot of new people who share the same goals and interests as myself. There are plenty of contests and activities to take part in besides the show ring. There's 3-on-3 basketball, speech contests, Hereford Idol, fitting contests, roundtable discussions with National Junior Hereford Association Board Candidates, many scholarships, and there are always some sort of sightseeing or fun activities for people of any age to take part in. I am looking forward to having a productive year and working with the members and meeting new ones.

Best regards,

*Austin*

## Newly Elected MJHA Officers



The Montana Junior Hereford members elected their officers for the 2007 - 2008 year in Lewistown at the Montana Junior Beef Expo. Pictured above from left to right are: Jeremy Tate, David Dutton, Austin Buzanowski, Keesha Tate, Justin Wacker, and Kaylee Eggen. Not pictured are Haylee Becker, Lilly Brogger, Kayla Lowry, Rachel Buzanowski and Aleecia Eggen.

Austin Buzanowski, Pompeys Pillar is the President; David Dutton, Gold Creek is Vice President; Keesha Tate, Gold Creek is Secretary/Treasurer; Haylee Becker, Billings is Historian; Lilly Brogger, Three Forks is Reporter, the Directors are Jeremy Tate, Gold Creek; Justin Wacker, Plentywood and Kaylee Eggen, Plentywood. Kayla Lowry, Deer Lodge is the newly elected queen and Rachel Buzanowski, Kaylee Eggen and Aleecia Eggen are the Princesses. Matt & Krista Beery from Vida were newly elected to join Becky Sidwell as Advisors for the Juniors. Congratulations to all of you!

## MJBE Hereford Showmanship Winners

**Montana Jr. Beef Expo Hereford Showmanship Winners** were Champion Peewee Division Abby Brogger, Three Forks; Reserve Champion Peewee Aleecia Eggen, Plentywood,; Champion Junior Division Rachel Buzanowski, Pompeys Pillar; Reserve Champion Junior Haylee Becker, Billings; Champion Intermediate Division Geoff Andras, Big Timber; Reserve Intermediate Division Austin Buzanowski, Pompeys Pillar; and Champion Senior Showman Ashley Berkram, Park City. Way to go Juniors!

# News from the Montana Junior Association

Montana should be quite proud of the MJHA in the past sixteen plus years. A mere handful of very young members, their families and adult Hereford breeders and enthusiasts came together to create more for the MJHA.

Having participated in one of the earlier Montana Jr. Beef Expo shows where there were only a dozen or so Herefords participating in the all-breed event, their energies came together to do more for Herefords and Hereford youth in a setting with several other breeds participating with so many more cattle. Frankly the barn was mostly filled with black cattle and we saw the support of those breeders for their youth.

Thanks to the efforts of many families and Hereford breeders through these sixteen years, June 14-16 saw a large group of MJHA members participate in the Montana Junior Beef Expo in Lewistown, MT. Twenty-eight breeding cattle and thirty CHB steers (that's 58 head of Hereford cattle folks!!) participated in this year's event! As for the other breeds – we were right there with nearly the same numbers and Herefords were to be recognized in mass.

The increased numbers of Hereford youth, their families and breeders there for support always creates a positive image for Herefords in Montana.

## Current MJHA Programs

### CHB Steer Carcass Program:

This program encourages MJHA members to participate in two CHB qualifying steer shows, the Mountain Magic Junior Classic in Bozeman and the Montana Jr. Beef Expo in Lewistown; and compete in any other county or state fairs. Carcass data is turned in the early fall. Carcass winners are determined separately. Ultimate CHB steer champions are determined by a point system combining the show points and carcass placing points.

### Outstanding Exhibitor Award:

This award is in final process by the MJHA board of directors to annually recognize an outstanding junior involved in showing Hereford breeding cattle as well as participating in MJHA activities.

### Gary Bishop Memorial Travel Assistance Program:

Rather than compete for scholarships based on school grade merit, the MJHA created this Memorial Assistance Program in honor of Gary Bishop, to assist *every* MJHA member that wanted to attend the National Jr. Hereford Expo and Pride Leadership Convention – on an annual basis. Gary Bishop always encouraged and helped juniors in attending as many national events as possible, for leadership training, meeting other Hereford youth, and in particular for youth who might not be able to be showing cattle but are involved in Hereford activities.

MJHA members can qualify each year by participating in MJHA activities. Annual requirements include attending at least two of the meetings held each year; actively participate on at least one committee; be involved in fundraising for the show activities and solicit at least \$200 in donations for the shows or other activities – or be involved in other fund-raising activities where at least \$200 in donations are achieved.

Each year, MJHA members may qualify for up to \$200 to attend the National Jr. Hereford Expo and up to \$150 to attend the Pride Leadership conference.

## Other MJHA Happenings

### Mountain Magic Junior Classic Results (held in Bozeman, MT May 19):

Grand Champion CHB Steer: Kayla Lowery, Deer Lodge, MT; Reserve Grand Champion Steer, Heather Thomas, Gold Creek, MT. 25 steers were shown.

**Montana Junior Beef Expo Results:** Grand Champion Owned Heifer - Snowshoe 60D Roxie 65R ET - Rachel Buzanowski, Pompeys Pillar; Reserve Grand Champion Owned Heifer - L3 Lady Odessa 690 - Largent Kids, Kaycee, WY; Grand Champion Bred & Owned Heifer - SHR Miss L1 Diesel 0635 - Katelyn Kohlbeck, Bozeman; Reserve Grand Champion Bred & Owned Heifer - L3 Lady Premier 746 - Largent Kids, Kaycee, WY; Grand Champion Cow/Calf Pair - L3 Lady Premier 4010 - Largent Kids, Kaycee, WY; Reserve Grand Champion Cow/Calf Pair - L3 Lady Premier 570 - Largent Kids, Kaycee, WY; Grand Champion Bull - L3 Felt Ben 649 - Largent Kids, Kaycee, WY; Reserve Grand Champion Bull - Jack's Dunbar Doug - Jackie McKenney, Big Timber; Champion CHB Steer - Lauren Schiermeister, Buffalo, WY; Reserve Champion CHB Steer - Lauren Schiermeister, Buffalo, WY.

**Other Junior Hereford Shows in Montana:** MJHA youth will be participating in the Montana State Fair, Great Falls and the Montana Fair, Billings as well as a few jackpot shows and all of their local county fairs.

### Junior Field Day:

There has been discussion for the past year or so for a Junior Field Day or 'Fun Day' to be held some time later this summer – without cows!

## Personal News & Notes of Interest

### Our thoughts are extended to the family of Art Shock

Art E. Schock, age 88, rancher and farmer from Vida, departed this earth for his heavenly home on Sunday, May 27, 2007, at McCone County Health Center in Circle. He was born July 2, 1918, at the family homestead in rural Vida. Throughout his 88 years, Art was known for the twinkle in his eyes, his ready smile and gentle spirit. As a young man, Art served in the CCCs helping to construct the Ft. Peck Dam. He was a member of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church in Richey. Art served his community in many ways through the years including: a McCone County commissioner from 1964 to 1970, on the board of directors of the Trinity Hospital in Wolf Point, the McCone County Fair Board and a 4-H leader for many years. His passion was his registered Polled Hereford herd. Art loved nothing more than discussing the merits of a good herd of beef cattle (even the black or red ones, though they could never quite measure up) with a fellow rancher. He exhibited his cattle at shows across the country and several times in Canada, highlighted by exhibiting the Champion Pen of Bulls at the National Western Stock Show in Denver in 1978. He served as director and president of both the Montana Polled Hereford Association and the Modak Polled Hereford Association. In 1992 he was an honoree of the National Western Polled Hereford Show. He was also named Montana Hereford Association Man of the Year in 1996. Art is survived by his bride of 66 years, Lydia Schock; his seven children, Robert (Sherri) Schock of Goldendale, Wash., Lois (Gary) Greenfield of Centennial, Colo., Ardell (Dennis) Savage of Gretna, Neb., LaDonna (Larry) Haber of Circle, Joyce Hanlon of Dyersburg, Tenn., Dennis (Mary) Schock of Sherman, Texas, and Arlene (Eric) Huff of Rockwall, Texas; 22 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren with three on the way; one great-great-grandchild; and four sisters, Anna Buechler of Galata, Esther Kaiser of Geysers, Violet Kahm and Laura Wittenberg, both of Circle. He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Christ and Gottlieb Jr.; a sister, Ella Buechler, and an infant grandson, Carlin Art Schock. A celebration of his life was held June 2, at the Evangelical Church in Circle. Interment followed after the lunch in Prairie Lawn Cemetery, rural Vida. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the American Hereford Youth Foundation, PO Box 014059, Kansas City, MO 64101 or the McCone County 4-H Council. Condolences may be sent to the family at [csmc@nemontel.net](mailto:csmc@nemontel.net) or [www.stevensonandsons.com](http://www.stevensonandsons.com). Clayton Stevenson Memorial Chapel of Wolf Point has been entrusted with the arrangements. Published in the Billings Gazette on 6/1/2007.

### National Junior Hereford Expo - Denver, Colorado - July 7-14

Over 1400 cattle entries and all the Hereford youth exhibitors and contest participants as well as their families will descend on Denver next week for one of the Nation's largest youth cattle events, hosted by Western States Hereford Associations.

Montana's group represents eight exhibitors who entered 31 head as well as an estimated 10-15 additional MJHA members and their families involved in the contests and hosting activities.

Besides the cattle show divisions and the many scholarships awarded, other competitions available for participation include showmanship, Scrapbook Contest, Golden Pitchfork Awards, Great American Hereford Grill-Off, Herdsman of the Year Award, Hereford Bowl, Illustrated speech contest, Junior Merit Award, Photography Award, and the list goes on.

A joint sponsorship of the Montana Hereford Association and the Montana Jr. Hereford Association has Montana members involved in committees for the show that include the Welcoming, Hospitality and Show arena committees. Montana will be the 'Host State for the Day on Monday, July 16. A Montana booth will be open for the week as well.

If you have any last minute items to be included in the 'State Basket' which is sold by silent auction please contact one of the Montana exhibitors or advisors ASAP. (Silent auction proceeds are split between the National and MJHA).

If any breeder has any promotional items you would like to have available at the booth, again please contact one of the MJHA advisors right away.

**Montana Hereford Association**

Lorrie Wacker, Secretary  
143 Muddy Loop Road  
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WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
[WWW.MONTANAHEREFORD.ORG](http://WWW.MONTANAHEREFORD.ORG)



## From Your Secretary, Lorrie Wacker

The current board of directors is very interested this year in looking for ways to help its membership. We welcome and value any input you may have. This is your Association and we want to do our best to manage it for you.

I welcome any interested person in joining our organization if you are not presently a paid member. We have a very eager and energetic board of directors and are looking forward to making some great strides for the Montana Hereford members this year and we would greatly appreciate your involvement.

If you have any ideas or suggestions, don't hesitate to contact one of the directors or myself or if you have any news items or announcements you would like to be included in upcoming newsletters, please let me know. Thank you!

Wishing you the best for 2007

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