

The B.C. Hereford BULL-ETIN

Keith Miller

This month's issue of the Hereford Digest is full of news about Bonanza 2002, but I felt I would be remiss if I did not mention some of the things that will not appear in the winners' report and the photos.

Bonanza 2002 was a fantastic event that was well run with everything starting on time, going off without a hitch and with the weatherman co-operating beautifully by supplying warm sunny days and cool nights. The facilities at Salmon Arm proved to be very adequate, except for some lack of power that seems to happen at most events.

A big hats off to the organizers for a job well done. Don Richardson and his family were in charge of sponsorships and collected over the budget for the event. Don also did a great deal of the organizing when it came to selecting people to do various jobs. Simon and Pam Shaw, with the able help of the Thompson Valley Hereford Club, looked after ground zero at Salmon Arm and did a wonderful job organizing the barns and grounds. Kathy Crosbie looked after the food service and had just about every hotel and motel room in the town sewed up. The Springford Family looked after the awards for banquet night and did an outstanding job. This was Ross Spingford's last year in the Junior movement and he capped it off by winning the Overall Grand Aggregate Award. Jim and Leona Wright very capably handled the chores of Barn Bosses. Lila and Andy Rupp and Lana, who is finishing her years as a Junior Member, looked after registrations and the catalogue.

At the draw for the Heifer Lottery, which is an award of cash towards a heifer at any sale that is a sponsor, both Ross and Lana won and graciously donated the funds back so another Junior could be afforded the chance to buy a Hereford heifer at a sanctioned sale. Lana and Ross were co-chairpersons for the event. They both felt they had received enough benefits from being a Junior member that they wanted to help the younger

members coming up. A very commendable motive as far as I am concerned.

The tone for the event was set on the first evening at the mixer. It was held at Canoe Beach on the Shuswap Lake and Sharon and Paul Gibbons from Langley brought their boat and gave everyone who was willing a ride in the boat or on two tubes they had tied to the rear. The boat was going for about three hours steady and it was enjoyed by all. From that evening to the banquet night when the awards were presented it was a time of good fellowship and friendly competition between Hereford enthusiasts.

Our BC Juniors did well and everyone from British Columbia was delighted to see 150 Juniors from across Canada and 120 head of cattle in the barns. The photography, art and literature section took up half of one wall in the arena and, when any meals were served in that area, they got a good once over by both Juniors' parents and other interested spectators.

I have been informed that Willow Heights Herefords have cancelled their dispersal that was slated for October 12 but I am sure they would sell a few cows if anyone wants some. This dispersal will take place when the feed situation and economy is more favourable.

I am proud to be associated with a breed that attracts so much attention. There were Juniors competing from other breeds because they had heard how great the Canadian Hereford Association Junior movement was. They were not disappointed. We have a proud breed, and we need to realize that fact and build on it. We do not have to take a back seat to any other breed.