



The VIEW FROM HERE

Kyle Haley

I'm not sure whose bright idea it was to schedule a cow show at 5,280 feet in January. My guess is those folks were simply a lot tougher than I am, although I will have to admit the weather has been very nice the last several years. At any rate, the National Western Stock Show celebrates its 103rd anniversary January 9-24, 2010.

Over the years, the Limousin breed has made its fair share of history in Denver, Colorado. The first NALF pre-organizational meeting was held in Denver. The first National Sale was held in Denver, and a carload of Limousin-Angus crossbreed steers once set the record sale's price in Denver. What's more, Denver has served as the home for our breed registry since its inception more than 40 years ago.

That said, January 7-13, 2010 holds the promise of being one of the most important weeks for Limousin in a long, long time.

Of course we have the junior show, open show, National sale and the ever-popular pen and carload shows, which will give us our first glimpse at the next generation of Limousin sires that are sure to shape our future.

And, no National Western would be complete without the membership banquet and the annual Genetics On Ice Benefit Auction, where you have the opportunity to support our biggest asset and the future of our breed, our Limousin young people. I can't think of a better cause to support and there is always lots of interesting items to bid on, including an intriguing heifer donated by the Schilling family. Look for more information in the January issue on Schilling's Winning Ticket, the centerpiece of the fourth annual Corner Post Genetics Package

And if I haven't given you enough reasons to take a few days off work and head to the rockies, then of course we have the annual meeting and the election of officers to lead our national association. This is not only your chance to get a recap of the past year's activities and next year's plans, but it is your opportunity to make your voice heard in terms of electing your national leadership.

If you still aren't convinced a trip to Denver would be time well spent, consider this. This year, instead of the usual break-out sessions at the annual meeting, a national recognized facilitator is being brought in to help with a strategic planning session designed to lead the breed forward. The membership is highly encouraged to take an active role in developing this plan.

If you are thinking that is an awful lot to pack into a few short days, you are correct. But rest assured there always seems to be some time left over to catch up with old acquaintances and make a few new ones. And if there is one thing 2009 taught me, it's that you should never pass up an opportunity to spend time with friends and family.

Here's hoping you had a wonderful Thanksgiving. May you and yours have a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

See you in Denver.

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