



The VIEW FROM HERE

Kyle Haley

Is it me, or does it seem like there is getting to be fewer and fewer hours in the day? No, I'm not talking about the fact summer is over and the days are getting shorter. I'm pointing out the fact people seem to be getting busier and busier. All of these technological advances that were supposed to make our lives easier have simply made us more efficient, which in turn has caused us to add more things to our plate.

That said, one of my pet peeves is for people to say "I'm just too busy" when giving a reason why they can't do this or that. The truth is, we all make time for the things that are most important in our lives. Whether it is getting the heifers synched and AI bred, or making it to Junior's final ball game of the year, where there is a will, there is a way.

As Limousin producers, I hope improving your herd is near the top of your priority list, somewhere right below eating and sleeping. Producers of registered seedstock have a serious investment in time and capital, and I have yet to meet a producer who isn't striving daily to improve his or her herd. If you fall in that category, and I am sure you do, my suggestion would be to pencil in December 12-13 as "busy all day."

The North American Limousin Foundation board of directors voted in the August board meeting to conduct a leadership and breed-improvement conference December 12-13 in Kansas City, Missouri. The NALF staff is currently hard at work finishing up the details for "Vision in Action: Preparing for the Next 40 Years."

The conference's tentative agenda includes adapting to change, decision-making, overcoming sales resistance, understanding the best uses of straightbred and hybrid seedstock, data analysis and sire selection. The program will feature a variety of speakers, with heavy emphasis on seedstock producers from other breeds as well as commercial cattle producers.

I don't know about you, but while I truly enjoy talking to Limousin producers, I equally enjoy listening to those who can provide an outside perspective. In fact, I have learned a lot over the years from friends of mine who are in the swine and equine industries, as well as those involved in other beef cattle breeds.

In the year's since I have been involved with the breed, I have attended the Over 40 Breeder Short Course, the Limousin Focus 2000 in Stillwater, Oklahoma, and Visions 2004 in Fort Collins, Colorado. I know this next term gets thrown around a lot, but I truly believe each of those events were "must attends" for Limousin producers across the country. The same can be said for the upcoming "Vision in Action."

More details will be in our November issue and upcoming issues of the *Partners* e-newsletter. In the meantime, feel free to contact Frank Padilla at the NALF office for more information on signing up. His number is 303/220-1693, ext. 123.

I have already cleared my schedule for the event, I hope you do the same.

We will see you there.

LW