

# Brahman

4 October 2013

## *Newsletter 5/2013*

Dear Member

### **1. BRAHMAN HOUSE / BLOEMFONTEIN:**

As Council and members we can be truly proud of our new building. On Monday 23 September 2013 we officially opened our new building. It was indeed a highlight in our history. The building is a perfect match to our cattle (the best): The finishing is excellent. The built-in cupboards, Council chamber, floors, offices, are all five star! We would duly like to invite our breeders to come and meet fellow breeders here, or simply just enjoy a cup of tea or coffee with the personnel at our new offices.

Our building cost R3.4 million. Everything paid cash.

It is important to know that the R33 000 per month lease of the old building is something of the past.

We include some more photos.

### **2. COMMITTEES:**

The organogram of the new committees for 2013/2014 is attached for your information. You will see that we have invited truly knowledgeable experts to handle the different portfolios in co-operation with our Councillors.

If you as breeders have any suggestions that can take our breed forward, please feel free to contact our committee members and share your ideas with us.

### **3. LRF – LIVESTOCK REGISTERING FEDERATION**

Mr Wessel Hattingh did sterling work for us at the LRF. He retires end February 2014. We say thank you to Wessel for precious time spent at the LRF and Stockman School. Council elected Mr Wayne Porter to represent us in future at the LRF.

### **4. LOUIS MEYER**

As Council we wish to thank Mr Louis Meyer for his inputs and time as Councillor and Chairman of Breed Improvement, as well as member of the Financial Committee. Your enthusiasm for the breed always impressed.



**BRAHMAN** Beestelersgenootskap | Cattle Breeders' Society

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## **5. BUDGETS**

We wish to inform our breeders that each Councilor works on a very stringent budget, which must first be approved by Council. We once again appeal to members to settle their accounts. Our budget is compiled according to levies. If 20% of the members do not pay their accounts, it causes a shortage in our budget. Where do we first cut on expenses?

- Breed Improvement;
- Promotion / Marketing.

## **6. POST GRADUATE STUDENTS**

Our experiment to provide a student with a bursary to work for one year at the Society was a huge success. Mr Jan van Zyl (Junior) did excellent work and definitely added value to the Brahmans. His time has almost expired, ending on 31 December 2013, but we will keep him employed till after the World Congress. We invite all breeders who have children who, after completion of a relevant degree, wish to work with the Society and in this way gain training and experience, to submit their application for 2014 before or on 30.10.2013. The selection of candidates will be done before 15 December 2013.

## **7. BILL BOARDS**

Council is proud of the boards to be displayed on National roads. The first one has already been erected on the N1 near Potgietersrus our thanks to Mr Willem Barnard and 2 others were erected on the N17 by Johan Drotsky. The one on the N4 is busy being manufactured. The other four will be erected before 30 October 2013. (By the way: To produce and erect such a board costs roughly the same as one full-colour/full-page advert in *Landbouweekblad*). The boards are financed from promotion funds.

## **8. NEW BANNERS**

We are currently busy with a set of new banners that will be used at shows and farmers' days. You will really be proud of our new models. Our old banners compared with 1939 Fords.

## **9. BREEDPLAN**

We really wish to encourage our breeders to become more involved and to participate in Breedplan. We know that Breedplan is as important as the breeder's eye and management and you know that genotype and phenotype

selection is very important. But to advance even faster with our herd “MAN MUST MEASURE”.

The latest additions are:

- Genomics Funding;
- Routine Reports;
- Monitoring of data credibility;
- Breedplan traits: (Easy to measure)
  - a) Docility; and
  - b) Sheath / naval, udders, teats; and many more.

We will constantly keep you abreast of advances and planning via newsletters in the Journal.

#### **10. INSPECTION**

This subject was again raised at the AGM by Mr Henry Britz. We will choose two herds in each region on a voluntary basis to test the new inspection card model in the herds. The inspectors will be:

- One judge
- The breeder himself
- A nominee by the Breeder
- Zietse Smit

Once the 10 herds have been inspected, we will obtain reports from the above mentioned. If they are positive, Council will inform you in full. NB: At this stage compulsory inspection is not considered. It can only be decided on by an Annual General Meeting.

#### **11. ME WILMA VAN ZYL**

We wish to thank Me Wilma van Zyl for her selfless service rendered at the Pretoria show. She has represented us on the Cattle Committee for the past eight years. Together with Mr Stephan Coetzee she did sterling work. We thank you for this and are sorry to lose you from above mentioned committee.

#### **12. NATIONAL SALE**

We as Council are truly worried that our National sale does not attract the best animals. Every year we have to adjust or bend the rules to acquire the best animals. Our National sale should be the flagship of all our members. Let us for once do some self-examination and decide: Am I supporting the

National sale half-heartedly or not all, or do I give the pride of my herd to the National sale and my fellow breeders?

**13. HALL OF FAME**

Council appointed a committee consisting of Messrs

1. Wessel Hattingh
2. Piet Lúneburg
3. Bill van Lelyveld
4. Theo Dicke
5. Llewellyn Labuschagne

They are to undertake a comprehensive study and make recommendations regarding breeders who qualify for the Hall of Fame. Even though some of the suggested candidates may already be deceased, they can still be eligible. We will keep you informed.

**14. WORLD CONGRESS**

Our Congress arrangements are nearly 100% in place. We are currently busy implementing the arrangements. Have you registered? Are you going to be part of the event? We are anxious that all 420 breeders be part of our Congress. If you do not intend to show with halter trained or non-halter trained animals, then register to attend the proceedings. It is your Congress. Such an opportunity will not present itself again within the next 40 years. Come and share with us. Let us make it the biggest get-together in 60 years. Each of you is as important as your fellow breeder.

On this high note, I conclude.

Brahman greetings.



**Llewellyn Labuschagne: President**

