

American Angus Auxiliary Annual Meeting

Minutes of the 2009 American Angus Auxiliary General Membership Meeting

By Barbara Ettredge, Secretary-Treasurer, American Angus Auxiliary

On Saturday, November 14, 2009, President Michelle Rieff, Bentonville, AR, called the 58th Annual Meeting of the American Angus Auxiliary to order at 3:00 p.m., at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Louisville, KY. Copies of the agenda, secretary's report, treasurer's report, committee reports, proposed by-law changes, and proposed scholarship application were available. There were 47 members and 4 guests present. Rieff introduced the executive committee; she also recognized committee chairs, state presidents, charter members, distinguished women, and past auxiliary presidents. Rieff also introduced Robin Ruff, Director of Junior Activities, St. Joseph, MO.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Barbara Ettredge, Pilot Point, TX, announced that the minutes from the mid-year meeting had been printed in the October issue of *The Auxiliary Post*; additional copies were available at the sign-in table. Rather than reading the minutes, Ettredge asked if anyone had questions or corrections. There being none, Jane Ebert, Sparta, NC, moved that the minutes be approved and filed; Sandy Trosper, Hamilton, MO, seconded the motion; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Ettredge presented the financial report that was distributed to all members; it included the balance sheet, profit and loss report, and fund statements for the Angus Foundation Auxiliary Scholarship, Pat Grote Scholarship and Educational Awards Endowment Funds managed by the Angus Foundation. Ettredge briefly explained that income from Ways & Means and returns on foundation investments were down. The executive committee will continue to be frugal with auxiliary spending. Rieff stated that the financial report had been approved during the Executive Board meeting.

Committee Reports

Beef Education – Anne Patton Schubert, Taylorsville, KY, thanked all for helping with the Cook-Off in Perry, Georgia. The 25th anniversary cookbook is still available for purchase. The 27th Cook-Off in Denver, CO, in

July 2010, may offer an additional category for adults, minus the skit; the category is still in the planning stages.

Anne Lampe, Scott City, KS, said the committee worked hard to stay within their budget. She stated that donations to the “Friends of the Black Kettle” are welcome. Prizes in Perry included “green shopping bags”, promoting CAB; the bags are available in the Angus Sale Barn for \$5. Anne stated that the income from advertising for the cookbook covered all but about \$800 of the production cost. She stated that the committee is always looking for members to assist, especially members from the Western States for the coming summer’s cook-off.

Distinguished Women – Nancy Thelen, Saline, MI, reported that a distinguished woman will be honored at the breakfast on Sunday morning.

Finance – Linda Brost, Harrodsburg, KY, referred to the treasurer’s report. She indicated that the Auxiliary would need to monitor and adjust to make expenses fit the income. Rieff presented Brost with a token of appreciation for her years of service as chairman of the finance committee.

Historian – Sherri Tunstill, Fayetteville, AR, reported that the scrapbook is complete; she expressed her admiration for Lois Foster, long-time historian. Tunstill presented the scrapbook to Rieff. The scrapbook will be on display during the annual meeting and at the National Jr. Angus Show, and then stored with the Auxiliary archives in St. Joseph, MO.

Liaison – Sharee Sankey, Council Grove, KS, stated that as liaison, she is having fun visiting and staying in touch with other breed associations and the American Angus Association.

Miss American Angus – Mary McCurry, Burrton, KS, introduced the 2009 Miss American Angus, Katie Gazda, Athens, GA. Katie thanked the members and invited them to visit the website for her travel updates. McCurry introduced her committee members and announced that Whitney Trospen, and Lindsey DeWitte, both of Kansas City, MO, will co-chair the Miss American Angus committee for the coming year. McCurry stated that the contest score sheet has been added to the website.

A little later in the meeting, the five queen candidates introduced themselves: Lindsey Grimes, Hillsboro, OH; Hannah McCabe, Elk City, KS; Kelli Retallick, Glen Haven, WI; JanLee Rowlett, Hurricane Mills, TN; and Sally Yon, Ridge Spring, SC. McCurry invited everyone to the speech portion of the contest on Sunday afternoon, where the topic is “Integrity and Me.”

Rieff presented McCurry with a token of appreciation for her years of service as chairman of the Miss American Angus committee.

Program & Hospitality – Sandra McCurry, Mount Hope, KS, introduced the members of her committee and stated that the breakfast had changed over the years, with as few as 40 attendees to the largest with 300 attendees. McCurry reminded everyone to purchase their ticket. Rieff presented McCurry with a token of appreciation for her years of service as chairman of the program & hospitality committee.

Public Relations – Shirley Williams, Fort Smith, AR, invited everyone to check out the Auxiliary's website. She asked members to send her an e-mail if they find an error, and she'll report it to the American Angus Association web designer.

Gift that Sizzles – Ebert announced that S&S Meat Company is the new provider for "The Gift that Sizzles". The Auxiliary receives 10% back on every order, and customers can custom design a gift box that fits their needs. Ebert indicated that Scavuzzo's will send monthly sales reports. Williams will be available with her laptop after the meeting to take your order or show you around the website.

Written reports for Audit, Achievement Awards, Crystal Awards, Silver Pitcher Awards, Youth Beef Promotion, Legislative & Bylaw, Membership, and Rattey Sculptures were included in the Committee Reports handout, as these committee chairs were unable to attend the meeting in Louisville.

Regional Director Reports

Region 1 – Mary K. Vejraska, Omak, WA, reported that she continues to increase membership from the western states.

Region 2 – Annie Viator, Franklin, TX, reported that she had no solid contact in New Mexico, Oklahoma had dissolved their auxiliary and combined it with the state Angus association, and that Texas is a model for the auxiliary.

Region 3 – Lynne Hinrichsen, Westmoreland, KS, stated that she had spent time contacting states without organized auxiliaries.

Region 4 – Martha Holshouser, Gold Hill, NC, reported that she had contacted the presidents of the states in her region, and that there was interest to organize an auxiliary in Georgia and Tennessee.

Region 5 – Leslie Mindemann, Sullivan, WI, stated that all the states in her region have strong auxiliaries and that her goal is to increase national memberships.

Region 6 – Cortney Hill-Dukehart, Sykesville, MD, reported that her region has some great auxiliaries, and that she is working on recruitment; she assisted in organizing the Atlantic National Auxiliary.

State Reports

California and Texas stated that their reports are included in the packet. North Carolina is selling cookbooks with the proceeds being donated to Hospital Guest House. Montana reported they will be celebrating 50 years by hosting a tea during the NILE.

Old Business

Kathi Creamer, Montrose, CO, reported for the Scholarship Committee. She thanked her committee. There were twenty-five applications from twenty states; fifteen entries were female with ten entries being male. Scholarships amounts were \$1700, \$1600, \$1500, \$1400, and \$1300. Creamer stated that the committee began discussing revisions to the application in June. A basic scholarship application combining sections from the 2008 application and new sections was created at that time. Comments were solicited during the mid-year meeting and through the October issue of *The Auxiliary Post*. Numerous comments were received from Auxiliary members from across the country. Creamer reported that the committee believes that the short essay sections in the proposed application will enable the applicant to share their experiences, what they have learned from these experiences, and the importance of these experiences. The committee's revised application was distributed to the membership. Creamer stated that the committee recognizes that the proposed scholarship application is a work in progress and that revisions will be necessary to meet the changes in our industry and in the world. Various members in attendance expressed their comments and concerns regarding the proposed application revisions. Joan Lutchka, Grass Lake, MI, moved to accept the scholarship application as presented; Lampe seconded the motion; motion carried.

New Business

2010 Budget – Thelen reported that the Executive Board approved the 2010 budget, which is balanced at \$61,750; this is down approximately \$9,000 from the 2009 budget.

Proposed By-law Change – In Pam Bailey's absence, Thelen presented the proposed by-law changes to the membership. The proposed

by-law changes were printed in the October issue of *The Auxiliary Post*. The proposed changes clarify the terms and election process of the Regional Directors. Thelen stated that the Legislative & By-Law committee has carefully reviewed and taken into consideration all comments from Auxiliary members; members have been vocal in letting the committee know that each region should select their director. Summary of the proposed changes included: #1) Article IV – add Regional Directors to the title; #2) Article IV, Section 4.1 change allows the majority voting from each region by mail ballot to elect the regional director; #3) Article IV, Section 4.2(g) – clarifies that the President may appoint vacancies of officer and regional director positions with the approval of the Executive Board; #4) Article IV, Section 4.5 – provides the implementation of the Regional Director rotation; and #5) Article VIII, Section 8.1 – clarification of wording and how it allows for a mail ballot to elect regional directors.

Rieff appointed Williams and Tammy Foote, Lexington, KY, as tellers. Members voted on the ballot provided; by-law proposals #1, #2, #4, and #5 were approved by a vote of 33-0; proposal #3 was approved by a vote of 33-1. The approved revisions will be made to the by-laws and the updated by-laws will be posted on the website by January 2010.

Nomination Committee Report

Thelen introduced the nominating committee. The committee reviewed two outstanding applications for secretary-treasurer; after their conference call, the committee decided to place both nominees' names on the ballot and let the membership vote. Lynne Hinrichsen and Anne Lampe, both of Kansas, were introduced and given a few minutes to address the membership. Other recommendations for the 2010 slate of officers are: Kathi Creamer, President; Barbara Ettredge, President-Elect, and Michelle Rieff, Advisor. Thelen moved to close nominations; Sankey seconded the motion; motion carried. All members voted by paper ballot. After the tellers counted the votes, Rieff announced that Anne Lampe, Scott City, KS, was elected as Secretary-Treasurer.

Lampe has been a member of the American Angus Auxiliary since 1983. She has served as the co-chair of the American Angus Auxiliary beef education/cook-off committee since 2005. She has also served on numerous Auxiliary committees and chaired the former computer tech committee for two years. Anne has served as the Kansas Angus Auxiliary president, reporter, and advisor, and has been involved in numerous committees. Anne and her husband Mark co-own Triple 3 Bar S Angus Farm and Anne is also the secretary/manager of the Kansas Angus Association. Her family began raising Angus cattle in 1953 in south Louisiana. Anne has a degree in Animal Science and was named the NJAA Advisor of the Year in 2007. She is also active in several local and state beef-related and youth organizations.

Rieff announced that Sandra Wallace, Kansas, OH, and Ardyce O'Neill, Logan, IA, were selected to serve on the 2010 Nominating Committee. Lutchka nominated Kathy Votaw Dubs, Billings, MT; Tunstill nominated Christy Bell Page, Jefferson, GA; and Cindy Ahearn, Wills Point, TX, nominated Sandy Trospen, Hamilton, MO. Lutchka moved to cease nominations; Carol Bloom, Westville, IN, seconded the motion; motion carried. Trospen and Dubs were elected by a hand vote.

Passing of the pin and gavel

Rieff passed the pin and gavel to Creamer. The newly elected president presented Rieff with a present and thanked her for her leadership and friendship. Creamer shared her goal to continue positive communication and challenged each member to bring in one new member and get involved.

Announcements

Creamer reminded members about the following:

- ✓ **Check out the wonderful offerings in the Angus Sale Barn. This year the Auxiliary is having a drawing for a hand-crocheted scarf by Creamer; customers receive 1 chance for every \$50 of merchandise purchased; drawing will be held on Monday afternoon.**
- ✓ **Purchase chances on the bottle of black angus wine and the hand-etched crock; tickets are 1 for \$1, 6 for \$5, and an arm's length for \$10; drawing will be held on Monday afternoon.**
- ✓ **Miss American Angus speech competition will be at 4:30 p.m., on Sunday afternoon in the Russell Room on the second floor.**
- ✓ **President's Reception in room 475, 3-4 p.m., on Sunday afternoon; Rieff has lots of wonderful sweet treats.**
- ✓ **Purchase your breakfast tickets; they're going fast!**

There being no further business, Bloom moved to adjourn; motion was seconded; motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.