



Auxiliary Notes

► by **Sharee Sankey**, president, American Angus Auxiliary

Celebrating history

As I write my column, I have just returned from the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver, Colo., which celebrated its 100th anniversary this year. I have attended the stock show since I was 6 or 7 years old, taking my first show heifer to Denver when I was 9. Back in those days, it was a real treat to get the opportunity to go to Denver. The Kansas Angus Association selected 10-12 heifers at our Kansas Angus Futurity Junior Show, which was hosted in December, to go to the NWSS. George Crenshaw, Manhattan, Kan., hauled all our heifers out, at no expense to us, just so we would have an opportunity to exhibit our heifers and represent the Kansas Junior Angus Association at the stock show.

A family tradition

Oh, how things have changed! The few things that haven't changed are the tradition, heritage and annual gathering of stockmen across the country to look at and buy seedstock for their breeding programs. One of the things that hit me the hardest while I was exhibiting and selling cattle out there this year was stepping back and looking at the generational families that come year after year to show and sell cattle.

This year we saw members of a special generational Angus family from Kansas taking roles as judges at this 100th NWSS. McCurry Bros. Angus have been annual exhibitors at the NWSS through the years, as well as at many other stock shows. This year we saw Brad McCurry evaluate the Roll of Victory (ROV) Angus Show, Greg McCurry

be part of the panel judging the Angus Sale Bull Show, and John McCurry judge the Junior Angus Heifer Show.

These men represent a generational Angus family carrying on the Angus heritage set by their fathers, grandfathers and great-grandfathers. What an awesome tribute to a family that has been so dedicated to the breed throughout the years! Seeing fourth- and fifth-generation Angus families still involved in the business says a lot for our breed!

Growing support

The American Angus Auxiliary has many ladies involved as committee chairwomen and members, as well as officers, that represent generational Angus families. The support they give to our organization is greatly appreciated for its role in extending the longevity of the organization.

But, as with any membership, new and active members play a vital role in keeping an organization alive and well. If you've been waiting for the right time to get involved, the time is now! We need all of you in order to be well-rounded in the support that the Auxiliary gives to the American Angus Association and the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA).

Our midyear meeting will be coming up during the 2006 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Indianapolis, Ind., so invite a friend and come to our meeting. There is a place for everyone in the future of our Auxiliary!



Junior recognition

Many of our junior members who are seniors in high school have been busy filling out the Auxiliary scholarship application, which is soon due to be submitted to state auxiliary contacts. If you don't have a state auxiliary contact (see the *Auxiliary Annual Report* in the February 2006 *Angus Journal*) and know someone interested in submitting an application, please contact Mary Greiman, Garner, Iowa, scholarship chairwoman, at (641) 923-2235 or tmkcg@ncn.net.

The national deadline is May 10, 2006. The application and directions for filling it out are located on the American Angus Auxiliary Web site, at www.angusauxiliary.com. Ten scholarships — for five boys and five girls — will be awarded at the 2006 NJAS in July.

I would like to encourage all juniors involved in Angus activities this spring and summer to apply for the Certificate of Achievement Award, given by the Auxiliary for outstanding achievements at national, state and district levels. These certificates will be beneficial when applying for the bronze, silver and gold awards through the NJAA, as well as when applying for Auxiliary scholarships.

The application is available on our Web site or by contacting Achievement Award Chairwoman Sonja Martin, Lavaca, Ark. Sonja can be reached by phone at (479) 674-2510 or by e-mail at epaangus@cei.net or smartin@greenwood.K12.ar.us.

Thinking success

In closing, I'll leave you with this quote by Whit Hobbs:

"Success is waking up in the morning, whoever you are, wherever you are, however old or young, and bounding out of bed because there's something out there that you love to do, that you believe in, that you're good at — something that's bigger than you are, and you can hardly wait to get at it again today."

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