



Auxiliary Notes

► by *Nancy Thelen*, president, American Angus Auxiliary

Words to live by

Over the years I have become a collector of quotes and slogans. As I write my last Auxiliary president's column, I can't help but reflect on two of my favorites. The first is TEAM — together everyone achieves more. I have never been involved in an organization, employment, school or family situation where this has not been the outcome. The second is a quote by Barbarella: "A life without cause is a life without effect." This is certainly true of the many Angus volunteers as well as staff members who I have had the privilege of getting to know much better as I worked with the greatest people and breed of cattle.

Giving back

The past three years on the executive committee have gone by so quickly. In our busy lives there never seems to be the perfect time to get more involved. I had served on several different committees during the past 35 years, and then said yes to give more back to a program that had given so much to me and my family, as well as to youth from across the country.

I am so glad that I became involved with other members to give back to the breed and to support youth and the Angus industry. My trips to Saint Joseph have given me the opportunity to better get to know the American Angus Association and Angus Productions Inc. (API) staff and the American Angus Association Board members.

There are many people to thank for the success of the Auxiliary. We have a committed group of Auxiliary officers, committee chairs, members and supporters, as well as an outstanding staff at the Association, API and Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB). The support of the

Association Board of Directors and staff, API, CAB and numerous breeders and donors helps to make many of our programs possible.

We have volunteers chairing 17 different committees. These vary from the Angus Sale Barn to the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Cook-Off to fundraising to the Auxiliary Scholarship Committee, just to mention a few. The committees implement their activities like clockwork and help the Auxiliary reach its goals. I greatly appreciate all the work and time they have invested. Involvement in an organization is vital for that organization to grow and prosper and to have a positive effect.

Annual meetings

My October column focused on information for our annual meeting and breakfast, which is to take place at the Executive West Hotel during the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in Louisville, Ky. The Auxiliary meetings begin with the Executive Board

meeting scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15, at the Executive West Hotel headquarters.

The Auxiliary Annual Meeting will begin at 3 p.m. Room locations will be listed on the signs near the Angus registration table in the hotel lobby.

"Angus For All Seasons" is the theme for the annual Auxiliary Breakfast Sunday morning, Nov. 16. It is open to all Angus enthusiasts. Tickets for the breakfast are \$15 per person and can be purchased at the Angus registration table in the lobby of the Executive West Hotel and at the breakfast.

This year the Auxiliary will also have a display at the Exposition Center. Plan to stop by all of the Angus displays on the second floor in the trade show area. Check out information on our Auxiliary activities and view a video on "Blue," the AQHA 2-year-old blue roan gelding donated to us by the Sheri Spader family. "Blue" will be offered at auction Jan. 14, 2009, at the Trowbridge Family and Friends Sale in Denver, Colo. Sheri's gift is in honor of the late Richard "Dick" Spader, former executive vice president of the American Angus Association, and will benefit the Auxiliary scholarship fund.

"Blue" is being trained by API's Rich Masoner, who shared these thoughts: "The biggest thing about Blue is his awesome personality; nothing bothers him, and he is always willing to do whatever you ask of him. He will have enough ability to do many ranch tasks or even be a show horse of some kind. I believe he could become an excellent

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2008 American Angus Auxiliary Officers

- **President** — Nancy Thelen, 7821 Weber Rd., Saline, MI 48176; 734-944-6262; hillsideacres01@aol.com
- **President-elect** — Michelle Rieff, PO Box 923, Bentonville, AR 72712; 479-795-2584; michellerieff@aol.com
- **Secretary-treasurer** — Kathi Creamer, 17270 6450 Rd., Montrose, CO 81401; 970-240-2798; lazyjb@rocketweb.net
- **Advisor** — Mary Greiman, 1960 200th St., Garner, IA 50438; 641-923-2235; tmkcg@ncn.net

► Pictured at right: Elected to serve as American Angus Auxiliary officers are (from left) **Mary Greiman**, Garner, Iowa, advisor; **Nancy Thelen**, Saline, Mich., president; **Michelle Rieff**, Bentonville, Ark., president-elect; and **Kathi Creamer**, Montrose, Colo., secretary-treasurer.



PHOTO BY STEVE THELEN

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Versatility Ranch Horse Show competitor. He definitely has the right mind for it. I can't say enough on how easy Blue is to get along with and how accepting of new challenges he is."

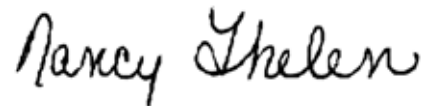
The 2009 Miss American Angus will be announced at the bull show Monday, Nov. 17. Don't forget to stop by the Angus Sale Barn at the hotel. The room is open daily beginning Saturday, Nov. 15, through Monday, Nov. 17. It is a great place to do some Christmas shopping.

New year

Oct. 1 marked the beginning of a new Auxiliary fiscal year, and I wanted to remind all annual members and prospective members that now is a great time to renew your membership or join the Auxiliary. Annual dues are \$10 and lifetime dues are \$100. Membership forms are available from any of the officers or membership chair Pam Patterson at 123 Patterson Ranch Rd., Columbus, MT 59019, and are also on our web site at www.angusauxiliary.com.

2009 will be a year of new beginnings. I know the excitement and enthusiasm for the Auxiliary will continue to build with the

addition of six regional directors, new programs such as the ambassador program, and the auctioning of "Blue." I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve as Auxiliary president, and I thank you for the rich and meaningful friendships. Congratulations to the officers and new regional directors. I look forward to working with the team as advisor. See you in Louisville.



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