

ASSOCIATION Auxiliary Notes

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

'Christmas' presents

"Christmas in July," the 2008 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), will long be remembered by all who attended. Sincere thanks to everyone who helped in so many different ways and especially to the Iowa breeders, members, Auxiliary members and juniors for all their efforts to make the week a success. The facilities, people and hospitality were unbeatable. For our family it sadly marked the end of junior participation, but seeing the excitement of several first-time Michigan participants reaffirmed the value of our unique NJAS.

A special gift

Our Auxiliary "Gift of the Horse" was introduced during the opening ceremonies of the show. The gift is from the Sheri Spader family, a dedicated Angus family with a vision to help young people succeed in leadership and competition.

"Blue" is a 2-year-old blue roan gelding from the Spader ranch program and registered through the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA). He is sired by Blue Max Hancock, and he 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 her husband, the late Richard "Dick" Spader, former executive vice president of the American Angus Association. Dick was a great supporter and promoter of our youth, and

we are all very excited about this gift that will benefit the Auxiliary scholarship fund.

"Blue" is being trained by Angus Production Inc.'s (API's) own Rich Masoner, and American Livestock Insurance has provided insurance coverage.

We were so pleased to have Sheri Spader and daughter Alissa escort Blue and Rich Masoner into the arena during the NJAS opening ceremony. Blue was on display throughout the week and attracted a lot of attention.

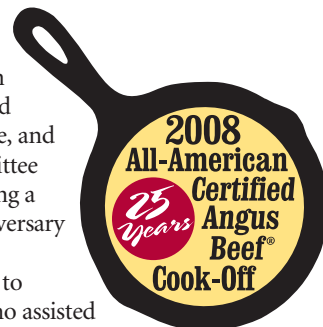
Milestones

This year's show also marked the 25th anniversary of our All-American *Certified Angus Beef*[®] (CAB[®]) Cook-Off, which first took place in 1983 when the show was also in Des Moines. Hats off to the Cook-Off

co-chairs

Anne Patton Schubert and Anne Lampe, and their committee for organizing a special anniversary celebration.

Thanks also to everyone who assisted with this activity.



Midyear meeting

More than 50 people attended the Auxiliary midyear meeting and social. It was great to have officers and members from our newest state auxiliary, Kentucky, in attendance. Several states are working on starting or reorganizing state auxiliaries. If you are interested in this please contact any of the officers and we will provide you with information.

After our annual meeting in Louisville in November, there will also be regional directors who can assist you. The names and contact information for state auxiliary officers will also be posted on our web site. They are willing to share their suggestions for organizing a state auxiliary.

Our meeting featured various committee reports and discussion on several committee

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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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items. Several clarifications to the directions will be made on the Auxiliary scholarship forms and on the Auxiliary Certificate of Achievement forms.

We realize that many young people are not aware of the certificates, and we are discussing ways to better promote this national recognition.

The application form is available on our web site at www.angusauxiliary.com and is due by Nov. 1 for the year from Oct. 1, 2007, to Sept. 30, 2008.

If your state has an auxiliary or junior Angus association, contact the auxiliary president or junior advisor for information on submitting the application. Otherwise, applications can be sent directly to the committee chair as listed on the application.

Please help promote this youth recognition opportunity for showing leadership and educational contest achievements. Many thanks to Sonja Martin for chairing this committee for several years.

Cathy Miller, chair of the Angus Sale Barn, showcased several new items, such

as the Angus mugs, aprons and the 125th anniversary coasters.

Shirley Williams, public relations chair, announced that many of the past winner lists are now up on the web site and more new items will be coming. In addition

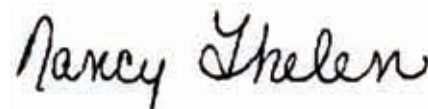
to the awards already mentioned, the Auxiliary presents the Dick Spader and Pat Grote awards for extemporaneous public speaking contest winners, the Janet Castle Crystal Award to the top young lady and young man in educational contests and the Silver Pitcher Award to the top young lady and young man in showing points. Special thanks to Cathy Watkins and Barbara Ettredge for chairing these committees.

At our meeting we approved having the nominating committee mail out letters to every member requesting nominations for the regional director positions. Since this

is a new elected position, the group felt it was important for every member to have the opportunity to nominate someone in this first year. It is very important that every member returns the postcard, even if they do not have a nomination, as we hope to also update our database with e-mail addresses and phone numbers. If you have not received a letter, please contact Mary Greiman at 641-923-2235.

Merridee Wells has agreed to chair our new Junior Angus Ambassador Program. The purpose of this program is to encourage juniors from across the country to promote Angus and beef, especially to nonagricultural groups. This program would recognize juniors for their promotional efforts and provide them with the education and materials to do so.

Junior advisors were asked to complete a survey during the NJAS. More information will be presented at our meeting in Louisville Nov. 15, 2008.



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Due Nov. 1, the application form for junior Certificates of Achievement is available at www.angusauxiliary.com.