# **Congratulations, juniors!**

The juniors who gathered under the shadow of the magnificent Rocky Mountains demonstrated once again the power and strength of our youth. They rushed to the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) with hopes and dreams; some left with banners and awards and many more left with new friendships, lasting memories and an increased passion for the Angus breed. Their energy was contagious and reminded me of the first time I visited the NJAS. My dream to raise and exhibit cattle was born on these very grounds. And that dream led to my desire to support and lead the American Angus Auxiliary.

#### **Awards**

Once again this year the American Angus Auxiliary sponsored many of the NJAS awards. The Auxiliary presented Harvey Rattey pewter sculptures to the winners of the senior and both intermediate divisions of the Extemporaneous Speaking Contest. Ellen Hoffschneider received the senior award presented in honor of Richard "Dick" Spader. Renae Tokach and Ransom Gardiner were presented the intermediate division

awards in honor of Pat Grote (see "At the Backdrop," page 196).

Also in honor of Pat Grote, the Auxiliary presented Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) scholarships to pay for LEAD conference registrations to members of the first-place team in the All-American *Certified Angus Beef®* (CAB®) Cook-Off intermediate steak division. The winning team included Carter Ward, Jera Pipkin, Paige Wallace, Clayton Smith and Sydney

Thummel. This Missouri team also won the Black Kettle Award (see "Missouri Claims Black Kettle Award," page 158).

Hannah McCabe and Ransom Gardiner received the Auxiliary-sponsored Janet Castle Crystal Award, which is presented by the Auxiliary to the overall educational contest high-point girl and boy (see "At the Backdrop," page 196). The Silver Pitcher awards for outstanding achievement in the cattle shows were presented to Katy Satree and Garrett Blanchard (see "Champions Named at 2010 NJAS," page 132).

A special treat for me was presenting the first-place showmanship award to my daughter, Britney Creamer. And yes, she did pick up and swing the "Auxiliary lady" around! Silver Revere bowls were also awarded to Austin Trueblood, second; Courtenay DeHoff, third; Madison Henderson, fourth and Erika Boehmer, fifth (see "Practice Pays," page 150).

Congratulations also to the Auxiliary Scholarship winners. They received a total of \$12,000 this year. Winners in the girls' division include Paige Wallace, first; Hannah

► **Left:** Auxiliary members and guests sign up for door prizes during the Auxiliary social.

► Lower left: Auxiliary officers and directors gave reports during their annual meeting at the NJAS.

► **Below:** Friends gather during the Auxiliary's social and midyear meeting.





Wright, second; Jessica Clarke, third; Mollie Lastovica, fourth; and Kassandra Pfeiffer, fifth. Winners in the boys' division include Thomas Yon, first; Tanner Rayl, second; Ty Bayer, third; Colby Myers, fourth; and Colton Kreager, fifth (see "Mile-High Aspirations," page 178).

### **Midyear Meeting highlights**

The Beef Palace Auction Arena was the site of the midyear meeting Wednesday, July 14. The executive committee hosted a social with refreshments and door prizes for members and guests. The midyear meeting followed the social.

Regional directors reported on their activities, including membership recruitment and the formation of the Georgia Angus Auxiliary. Members were reminded that regional director nomination forms for regions 1, 2 and 3 were available from Michelle Rieff, Nomination Committee chairman. Mary Vejraska, Region 1, and Lynne Hinrichsen, Region 2, will seek re-election; and Region 3 Director Annie Viator will not seek re-election. Committee reports from the Awards, Beef Education, Finance, Nomination, Scholarship and Ways & Means committees were presented.

Ardyce O'Neill presented information regarding the current Longaberger Fundraiser that she is coordinating. An exciting announcement was made by Anne

Patton Schubert and Ardyce regarding the return of the heifer fundraiser. Plans are underway to auction a heifer during the 2011 All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity, with proceeds going to the scholarship fund.



#### **Moving forward**

Check out the new and improved Auxiliary website; many thanks to API for creating an appealing, easily navigational website.

New, unique Angus items have been added to the Angus Gift Barn. These items include cutting boards featuring the work of C.J. Brown, note cards and puzzles featuring Frank Murphy prints, and acrylic pitchers with matching glasses. Check out all the Angus Gift Barn items at www.angussalebarn.com.

#### Thank you

My family closed the chapter on exhibiting at an NJAS this year. It was a bittersweet

## 2010 American Angus Auxiliary Officers

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ending to an event that had become a family tradition. I can't begin to thank everyone, especially the Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska volunteers who played a role in the "Rush to the Rockies." And my congratulations to every exhibitor who accepted the challenge to compete in the world's greatest junior beef show.

Kathi Creamer

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