



Auxiliary Notes

► by **Anne Lampe**, president, American Angus Auxiliary

Everyday heroes

*Did you ever know that you're my hero?
And everything I'd like to be?
I could fly higher than an eagle,
'Cause you are the wind beneath my wings.*

— *Wind Beneath My Wings*, written by
Larry Henley and Jeff Silbar

Courage and vision

What is a hero? In one dictionary listing, part of the definition says, "of distinguished courage or ability, admired for deeds and qualities." I think that definition aptly describes the "heroes" of the American Angus Auxiliary. The American Angus Auxiliary has many heroes. These heroes include the women, men, Angus breeders and countless supporters of the Auxiliary's mission throughout our 60-year history.

The first of these heroes are the women who came together in 1952 and developed the mission for our current organization. These ladies served as the catalysts for the programs that are in place today. That mission demands that the Auxiliary leadership and members work together for the good of the Angus breed while focusing on the next generation of Angus breeders, our juniors.

The second group of our heroes is

composed of the Angus breeders and enthusiasts who generously support the Auxiliary so that the organization may continue to succeed. It takes selfless supporters who willingly give resources, time and talent. This group includes all of the women who serve and have served the Auxiliary as committee chairwomen and committee members, working tirelessly in the background so that the organization as a whole may shine.

The circle of our heroes also extends to our colleagues, including the leadership and staff of the American Angus Association, Angus Productions Inc. (API), the Angus Foundation and Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB), who share our mission by supporting our programs and activities through guidance, technical and financial support.

Deeds and qualities

A special group that fits into our definition of a hero is the 37 Angus breeders who, from 1958-1996, donated a heifer to the Auxiliary to auction to benefit our scholarship program, as well as the buyers of each heifer. In 2011, a new hero was added to this group



when the Jim and Ardyce O'Neill family encouraged the Auxiliary to bring back the "gift heifer" and graciously donated a bred heifer.

The American Angus Auxiliary is excited to announce the tradition of auctioning a heifer will continue in 2012, adding another name to the list of our heroes. Gardiner Angus Ranch, Ashland, Kan., has pledged the donation of a bred heifer. GAR Progress M381 is a February 2011 daughter of GAR Progress and a maternal granddaughter of SS Objective T510 0T26 bred to GAR Prophet.

M381, registration No. 17112710, was selected by Mark Gardiner from the heart of

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their spring replacement females. In addition to her outstanding pedigree, as of April 9, 2012, she boasts interim expected progeny differences (EPDs) of BW +0.0; WW +56; YW +102; Milk +34; CED +12; and \$B of +76.24. A video of M381 and photos will be available at www.angusauxiliary.com.

For more information on this outstanding cow prospect, contact Mark Gardiner at gar@ucom.net or 620-635-5095. The auction will take place Sunday, June 17, during The All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity luncheon in Louisville. Absentee and phone bidding will be available. Contact Anne Lampe, American Angus Auxiliary president at alampe@wbsnet.org, 620-874-4273, for more information. Proceeds from the sale of the heifer will go to the Auxiliary's scholarship and awards endowments through the Angus Foundation.

Preparing tomorrow's heroes today

In an era when modern culture may have diminished the definition of hero, I believe that the past, present and future supporters of the American Angus Auxiliary are truly heroes. They are heroes who enable our organization to focus on our mission to ensure the future of the Angus breed by supporting the next generation of Angus breeders, promoting our great Angus cattle and product, as well as joining together to learn from each other.

The third verse of *Wind Beneath My Wings* says, "It might appear to go unnoticed; But I have it all here in my heart, I want you to know the truth, I would be nothing without you." The members and supporters of the Auxiliary are truly the wind beneath our wings.



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