



# The Auxiliary Post

Fall 2025

[www.angusauxiliary.com](http://www.angusauxiliary.com)

## Thoughts from the President



Each year, I eagerly anticipate the end of the school year, looking forward to a more relaxed schedule for my kids. However, as summer progresses, I often find myself overwhelmed by the numerous activities and tasks I try to fit into those three months. Despite the busyness, I cherish the travel time we spend together as a family and the opportunity to involve my kids in farm chores. These moments allow us to reconnect and catch up on life. With the start of the school year, we lose most of our farm "help," which is a challenge for dads, even if it's hard to admit. It's incredible how quickly our kids are growing up!

This summer, the American Angus Auxiliary had an exceptionally busy and fulfilling time in Tulsa. As a group, we had the privilege of witnessing the Junior Angus Show, where we saw so many talented juniors showcase their skills. Our meeting attendance was impressive, and the silent auction was a significant success for both the participants and our Auxiliary. We were thrilled to award \$20,000 in scholarship money to 10 very deserving seniors who are now enjoying their first year of college. We also know that the juniors and their parents have been busy preparing for their state fairs. I wish everyone the best of luck as they compete and hope they cherish the memories and friendships they make.

As always, I encourage everyone to attend our Annual Meeting at the convention in Kansas City. We are constantly seeking fresh ideas to help our organization grow. I hope you will join us for our Auxiliary Breakfast and bring a few friends along. Feel free to let me know if there are any specific areas where you'd like to serve in the upcoming year! (913) 683-2150

- Tonya Rae Theis



### American Angus Auxiliary Scholarship Recipients

#### **BOY'S DIVISION**

1st: Samuel Jordan, MO  
2nd: Bryce Hofing, IN  
3rd: Jacob Marksby, KY  
4th: Jackson McCurry, KS  
5th: Dalton Birdwell, TX

#### **GIRL'S DIVISION**

1st: Clara Henderson, WI  
2nd: Payton Alexander, TX  
3rd: Cailee Flood, CA  
4th: Claire Murnin, MT  
5th: Adelaide Havercamp, KS

#### **MISS AMERICAN ANGUS CONTESTANTS**

Payton Alexander, TX  
Adelaide Havercamp, KS  
Clara Henderson, WI  
Cheyanna Houk, IA  
Claire Murnin, MT





## Howdy Y'all from Megan Ahern — Region 2

I hope this edition of the post finds you keeping cool and relaxed while we once again battle the summer heat! The weather has been wild across the country and I hope you all are safe and well. As we start heading back to school or begin our state fair activities, I'm sending you all my best wishes. I'm enjoying this time to reflect back on all the blessings that have come our way so far in 2025 and how grateful we are to receive them.

Here in my part of the Lone Star State, we have been graced with periodic rainfall and are deep in the weeds (pun intended) of baling hay! This year I was disappointed to have to miss Junior Nationals but I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing everyone's photos and posts. I especially enjoyed the Cook-Off stories I received!

My summer has been filled with travel and spending time with loved ones. I started a new job in December and have been up to my neck in balancing life, work, baseball, and cows. I am looking forward to the fall where things will (hopefully) slow down a little so we can all soak in all the things that make the holiday season magical. I know I'm not the only one looking forward to cooler weather as we move into fall.

I'm excited to be wrapping up my first year of my second term as Region 2 Director. I will begin my second term and final year as a Regional Director this coming November. I am eager to see what new challenges and opportunities it will bring and continue to engage with the membership to foster some strong Angus fellowship. Looking toward Angus Convention, I'm excited to make the trip to Kansas City and hope to see many of you there! I look forward to meeting some new faces and reconnecting with familiar ones, see y'all there! If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact me, I love getting your calls and texts!



## Greetings from Melissa Eitel — Region 4

My name is Melissa Eitel, I am your Region 4 Auxiliary Director. I am filling in Christy Perdue's remaining term, as she was elected to be the Treasurer of the Auxiliary in November 2024. I am excited to have the opportunity to represent Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

I live in Northeast Missouri on my husband's family's sixth generation cattle farm. I joined the Auxiliary when our daughters started showing Angus cattle. I am glad I joined to connect with others involved in this industry. As a retired high school teacher, promoting junior activities and educational programs for our membership are things I am enthusiastic about.

We recently held our Mid-Year Meeting at NJAS in Tulsa, Oklahoma. It was great to see everyone! As always, the best part of these events is seeing old friends and making new ones. Part of the mission of the American Angus Auxiliary is to support our membership and help our juniors be successful via scholarships and contests. These educational and networking opportunities only strengthen the Angus breed. No matter the type of Angus operation you are a part of, each person and operation play a role in the process. The only way this works is for all of us to work together. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns. As we get ready to move into fall, I look forward to fall calves, cooler weather, football and seeing all of you at the upcoming Angus convention in Kansas City.



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# National Angus Convention

Kansas City, Missouri

## Friday, October 31

- **3:00pm**  
MAA Interviews  
Truman A



## Saturday, November 1

- **8:00am**  
Miss American Angus social  
Barney Allis Historic Lobby
- **9:00am**  
Auxiliary Annual Meeting  
Barney Allis Historic Lobby
- **10:00am**  
MAA speeches  
Imperial Ballroom (Main stage)
- **Noon**  
Lunch for MAA  
Eisenhower
- **6:00pm**  
Awards Dinner  
Imperial Ballroom



## Sunday, November 2

- **7:30am**  
Auxiliary Breakfast  
Trianon ABCD



## From your Regional Directors



### Hello from Tammy Weaver— Region 6

"Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future"

- John F. Kennedy

Angus enthusiasts throughout the Northeast have had a busy summer of shows, field days and fundraising for our youth activities and scholarships. Youth are the primary beneficiaries of the funds raised by the auxiliary on both the state and national levels. Youth represent the foundation of our future – tomorrow's leaders, thinkers and changemakers. The values, habits, and behaviors they observe today will shape the kind of world they will create tomorrow, including leading our organizations. That's why it's crucial for all of us as mentors, leaders and communities to set a strong, positive example. Whether through kindness, integrity, or responsibility, every action we model becomes a lesson that can guide and inspire the next generation. The Angus Ladies Auxiliary is thankful for our volunteers and supporters that make it possible for us to support our Angus youth. We welcome you to support your local auxiliary efforts as well as on the national level. The American Angus Auxiliary will have two fantastic fundraisers coming up this fall. The first is the Full Circle Online Auction November 6<sup>th</sup>. There are opportunities to donate to the auction and to purchase great items. The second is the "Gifts That Sizzle" promotion where you can order a fabulous CAB steak bundle sent directly to your gift recipient. What a great holiday gift for others or yourself! Remember, these fundraisers directly support our Angus youth.

Mark your calendars for the National Angus Convention happening October 31<sup>st</sup> through November 2<sup>nd</sup> in Kansas City, MO. Join us as we crown our next Miss American Angus from among 5 of our top scholarship winners. We will also host our auxiliary social and Annual Meeting, as well as the Auxiliary Breakfast. If you have never attended, please join us! I only appreciated the positive effect of Angus breeders' camaraderie after attending myself. Acquaintances quickly became friends and industry resources. Good luck to all with your fall shows and sales! See you in Kansas City!

When we invest in our youth – through guidance, example and opportunity – we are shaping a brighter future.

*We strive to share current updates through our online presence. Visit the links to see information and what we are up to as an Auxiliary across the nation.*







My year as Miss American Angus has been unforgettable. This year kicked off quickly with my first event at the North American International Livestock Exposition. Starting off this journey on the green chips at one of my favorite shows was unforgettable. After conquering the many blisters and the wearing heels instead of boots in the show ring, I was off to my next event, the CAB Young Beef Leaders Seminar. This was one of my favorite events of my reign. To learn so much about one of the most important aspects of our association, CAB, was amazing. My next stop for the winter was to the Cattlemen's Congress in Oklahoma City, OK. I got to visit with many breeders at the sales I attended to learn more about what producers are getting from their cattle. Just a week after being at Cattlemen's Congress I was off to the historical National Western Stock Show. This was my first time in Denver and it was unforgettable. As the last Miss American Angus to be on The Hill, I could feel the history all around me.

My first stop for the spring was to the Mid-Atlantic Junior Angus Classic. The hospitality at MAJAC was fantastic and it was unseasonably warm this year! Shortly after going to Virginia, I headed out west for the Western Angus Regional. Reno was beautiful and was a great time for reunions. My older cousin Maddi Butler who was MAA 10 years ago was my chaperone. We visited Lake Tahoe and ate fantastic food. After I finished my freshman year at Purdue, I was off to Timonium, Maryland for the Mid-Atlantic Junior Angus Show. I spoke at the queen's reception and made bracelets with the queens that came to represent their states. After enjoying fantastic seafood and seeing great Angus cattle, I had a break before my summer shows.

June started off on a busy note with many shows leading up to Junior Nationals. I was able to attend my home state's preview show! Supporting the juniors at our Indiana Angus Preview Show was extremely rewarding. I also attended the All American Breeders Futurity in Louisville, Kentucky. Soon after, I was off the Louisiana for the Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show. I attended the royalty luncheon where I learned about the Mardi Gras tradition of King Cake. Shortly after leaving Louisiana, I was off to the best week of the year, the National Junior Angus Show. From the royalty brunch where I spoke to the queens from all over the country to the long days at the show ring, the memories and connections I made as Miss American Angus were unforgettable. One of my favorite aspects about Jr. Nationals was the opportunity to connect with the queens from all over the country. Being able to offer them bits of advice and leave an impact on every single one of them.

With my reign as Miss American Angus coming to a close, I can't help but feel bittersweet about it ending. The many memories and connections I have made throughout the year are something I will take with me for years to come. With convention quickly approaching, I cannot wait to see who the next young woman will don the red jacket for the coming year.

## Meet the Candidates for Regional Director Positions

### **Region 6: Linda Alexander**

My family has a small Angus Cow/Calf operation in Berryville, VA. Both of our children showed Bred & Owned Angus cattle on the State, Regional and National levels. Each of us have been very involved in Virginia Angus and Virginia Junior Angus. My husband, Chuck, and I were part of the founders of the Mid-Atlantic Junior Angus Classic. Our children were both involved in the contests at NJAS every year! Cook-Off was always a highlight. Morgan placed in the top 5 girls for the American Angus Auxiliary scholarship and ran for Miss American Angus. I was also raised on an Angus farm in Virginia and showed at the State, Regional and National levels. I enjoyed my time with the Auxiliary events at both the NJAS and the Angus Convention. My term as a judge for the Scholarship Committee was very special. The ladies I have met from across the country have become friends – and that strengthens my Angus Family. I look forward to serving the American Angus Auxiliary.



### Attention Members in Regions 4, 5 & 6

If you are a paid American Angus Auxiliary member living in Region 4, 5 or 6, please take a moment to vote\* for a Regional Director. Sign your name and include your state next to your signature. Unsigned ballots will not be valid. Ballots must be post-marked or emailed to the Nomination Committee Chairman, Karla Knapp, **on or before October 15, 2025**. A photocopy or scanned pdf file of this ballot is acceptable. (\*You only vote or the director representing your state.)

#### **\*\*\* OFFICIAL BALLOT \*\*\***

**Please vote for ONE candidate or write in a candidate from a state WITHIN YOUR REGION. Place an "X" beside the candidate's name for whom you wish to elect - only vote for the region which represents your state.**

**Region 4** – Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

\_\_\_\_\_ Melissa Eitel, Missouri      \_\_\_\_\_ Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Region 5** – Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky

\_\_\_\_\_ Lori Pillars, Michigan      \_\_\_\_\_ Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

**Region 6** – Delaware, Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Vermont, New York, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, D.C.

\_\_\_\_\_ Linda Alexander, Virginia      \_\_\_\_\_ Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **BALLOT CHECKLIST:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Current, (dues paid) Angus Auxiliary member
- \_\_\_\_\_ Voted for only ONE candidate representing your state
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ballot is signed w/state noted

**Member Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Printed Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign and return ballot to Karla Knapp, Nominating Committee Chairman,  
**EMAILED OR POSTMARKED BY OCTOBER 15, 2025** to the following addresses:  
*knappangus@gmail.com*    **or**    22439 265<sup>th</sup> St; Bloomfield, IA 52537

### *Meet the Candidates for Regional Director Positions*

#### **Region 5: Lori Pillars, Michigan**

I would like to take a moment to introduce myself to the American Angus Auxiliary membership. My name is Lori Pillars, and I am currently serving as the Region 5 Director. I have served a two-year term and seeking reelection. During my term I have helped make decisions based on membership input to move the Auxiliary forward. The Auxiliary has allowed me to play a part in helping junior members receive scholarships while working alongside ladies that are like minded. If reelected, I would work towards meeting the regional needs of the Auxiliary to further enhance positive experiences for the membership. Alongside my husband, Rodney and two sons Austin and Blake we have a small farm in Martin, MI where we grow hay, barley and rye and have 30 head of registered Angus cow/calf pairs along with 10 Angus influenced commercial cows. Our Angus journey began in 2013. Austin and Blake have been heavily involved with the Michigan Junior Angus Association. During our involvement with the Michigan Angus Association, I have been a member of the Michigan Angus Auxiliary where I have served as historian for the past eight years.



# Angus Families Discover the Key Ingredient to the Cook-Off



The 42nd annual cook-off was hosted in Tulsa, Okla., during the 2025 National Junior Angus Show.

*By Jessica Hartman, Communications Specialist*

Every recipe has a key ingredient. When it comes to the American Angus Auxiliary's annual All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB) Cook-off, the key ingredient isn't the usual suspects — salt, garlic or herbs, but rather family. Now a much anticipated event at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) each July, the event helps young cattle producers develop a better understanding of the consumer eating experience and confidently advocate for beef products. "I've seen two generations of participants come through the cook-off now. We started 42 years ago," says Anne Lampe, longtime contest co-coordinator. "It is a contest that requires the entire family to be involved."

National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members who compete are asked to write and perform a short skit which includes information about the ten specifications of the CAB brand. The skit is paired with the cooking and presentation of a designated CAB cut of beef (roast, steak or other) to a panel of judges — usually dished up on-theme with the team's skit. "This contest is a labor of love. It requires a lot of time and energy. But what it has grown into — the creativity is so amazing," says Melissa Davis as she looked around the large event hall in Tulsa, Okla.

With four decades of similar stories, the All-American CAB Cook-Off and American Angus Auxiliary volunteers who run the event have succeeded in developing juniors to be rising leaders in the industry. "They are learning [about beef quality and CAB specifications] in such a way that they can talk to their peers about it; they can talk to adults and the public," Lampe says. "There are quite a few who have gone on to be [National Junior Angus Board] members or be employed by Certified Angus Beef."

In total, 30 teams competed in the 2025 cook-off. Along with division results (listed at [angus.org/shows/results](https://angus.org/shows/results)), two additional awards, the Black Kettle and Ardyce's Apron, were announced during the NJAS closing ceremonies. The Black Kettle Award was established in memory of Paul St. Blanc, a supporter and long-time friend of the Cook-off, and is given to the overall team. The 2025 Black Kettle Award went to the intermediate roast team from Oklahoma. Team members included: Denton Cook, Cordell.; Joseph Davis, Council Hill; Bently Lott, Carmen; Saylor Norvell, Tuttle; Sadie Plagg, Guthrie; and Gracie Stonebarger, Council Hill. Ardyce's Apron was created in memory of Ardyce O'Neill, a past American Angus Auxiliary president who served as the contest's first chairwoman. The award goes to the junior cook-off team with the highest point total. This year, the honor went to the Texas junior steak team. Team members included: Whitney Beuerlein, West; Alleigh Blackwell, Iowa Park; Briella Humpert, Windthorst; Brystol Humpert, Windthorst; Cutter Murray, Perrin; and Jack Peterson, Whitesboro.

View results of the 2025 NJAS, including shows, contests, awards and scholarships, at [www.njas.info](https://www.njas.info). Additional coverage is also available on the [NJAA Facebook page](#) and in the September issue of the [Angus Journal](#).

[Edited and condensed from the original.]

## Meet the Candidates for Regional Director Positions

### **Region 4: Melissa Eitel**

I never dreamed I would end up on a cattle farm. I met my husband while attending the University of Missouri-Columbia. After college, we moved to Northeast Missouri to his family's sixth generation cattle farm. They have been in the Angus business for many years. We have both a registered angus and commercial herd.

I joined the Auxiliary when our three daughters started showing Angus cattle. Being junior members of the Angus Association has been great for our girls. It's given them wonderful work ethics and networking opportunities within the industry. In the Spring of 2024, I had the opportunity to attend the Women's Connected Conference in Wooster, Ohio. The continuing education and connection with other women in the Angus industry make this a valuable organization.



# 10TH ANNUAL FULL CIRCLE ONLINE AUCTION



NOVEMBER 6, 2025  
ON ANGUS LIVE

Supporting **PROMOTION. EDUCATION. DEVELOPMENT.** of the Angus breed

## SEMEN TANK

Donated by semenbanks.com



## SILVER & TURQUOISE HEIFER HEAD NECKLACE

Donated by Anne Lange



## STS COWHIDE SLING & WALLET

Donated by NC Angus Auxiliary



## CUSTOM CHORE GLOVES

Donated by Plain Jan's Inc



## PENDLETON PILLOWS

Donated by Mary McCarry



## 10 UNITS SCC SCH 24 KARAT

Donated by Stortzbach Cattle Co



## COWHIDE GUN CASE

Donated by Clay Knoll Angus



## CUSTOM NJAA AWARD BUCKLE

Donated by Russell's Fine Jewelry



## ANGUS GIFT BASKET

Donated by Indiana Angus Ass



## CUSTOM RING KEEPER NECKLACE

Donated by Carol Perdue & Martha Holshouser



## CUSTOM APPAREL PKG

Donated by Bales Marketing Co



## ULTIMATE COOLER & SLOW COOKER PKG

Donated by Bloom Angus & The Hoping Family



## CUSTOM TOOLED LEATHER BIFOLD WALLET

Donated by Iowa Angus Ass & Karla Knapp



## ANGUS JOURNAL AD

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## MONTANA SILVERSMITH

SQUASH BLOSSOM NECKLACE

Donated by NC Angus Ass



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Donated by Certified Angus Beef Brand



## CUSTOM TURTLE BOX SPEAKER

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## TOOLED LEATHER PADFOLIO

Donated by Sunny Okanagan Angus



## JIM BALDRIDGE SEASONING

Donated by Becky Pedman



## PLUSH SHOW ANIMAL SET

Donated by Livestock Lovers



## CERTIFIED ANGUS BEEF NECKLACE

Donated by Courtney Holshouser



## CHARCUTERIE BOARD

Donated by Pinewind Farm, Midland, MN



## TOOLED LEATHER TRAVEL CASE

Donated by Sunny Okanagan Angus



## DAMASCUS FOLDING KNIFE

Donated by Christy Perdue



## WOODEN BOWL

Donated by Julie Conover & Nancy Thelen



## CUSTOM WHISKEY BARREL LAZY SUSAN

Donated by Pennsylvania Angus Ass



## WOODEN STOOL

Donated by Avery Farms



## 5 UNITS SEXED HEIFER HILL VALLEY

RECKONING 931

Donated by Hill Valley Farm



## POTTERY BOWL

Donated by Missouri Angus Ass



For more information or to donate a consignment contact Cortney Holshouser



kncholson@aol.com



919-796-2346





## The Auxiliary Post

## Publication of the American Angus Auxiliary



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### American Angus Auxiliary Membership Form

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Dues run from October 1 - September 30

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive the **Auxiliary Post** electronically to my email:    **Yes**    **No**

### Auxiliary Committees

Please circle the committee(s) of interest to you:

Audit | Awards | Beef Education | Distinguished Women | Finance  
Historian | Legislative & By-Laws | Liason | Membership  
Miss American Angus | Nominating Program & Hospitality  
Public Relations | Scholarship | Ways & Means

### Membership Options

- ☐ Annual Member - Dues \$20
- ☐ Last year as a NJAA member - Dues \$75  
- Must submit no later than December 31st of  
your last year as a NJAA member
- ☐ Lifetime Member - One-Time Fee \$100

Please make checks payable to **American Angus Auxiliary**.

Mail your membership form with your dues to the following address:

American Angus Auxiliary, c/o Jamie Rutledge, Membership Chair, 716 N. St. Andrews, Wichita, KS 67230

