Happy New Year! And what a special year for the American Angus Auxiliary as we celebrate our 65th year in 2017.

Chartered in 1952 with the purpose and mission for women Angus breeders and wives of Angus breeders to get better acquainted, to aide in promoting the breed and to present awards to deserving youth showing Aberdeen Angus projects. Today the mission of American Angus Auxiliary (Auxiliary) offers individuals interested in the welfare of the Angus breed the opportunity to work together to provide educational, promotional and social programs and activities. A major emphasis of this mission is to champion the future of the breed through youth development, scholarship and award.

The Auxiliary is a proud part of the Angus breed. Together with the American Angus Association, Angus Foundation, National Junior Angus Association, Certified Angus Beef®(CAB) and the Angus breeders across the country, we are ANGUS. The Auxiliary is thankful for the relationship we have with each of our entities and appreciate the support we receive to further our mission. Our scholarship recipients represent the best, Miss American Angus reaches audiences of all ages and demographics in her reign, and the All-American CAB® Cook-Off contest grows annually educating the youth about the importance of our Angus beef product - all possible with the vision of the Auxiliary and the support of the Angus breed.

My challenge to you in the 65th year of the Auxiliary is to continue to uphold our traditions, while sharing our stories with those near and far. Continued education and promotion of what we do, the youth we support and are raising in our breed, and the community we work with daily as a part of the beef industry, needs to be shared with those who know who we are, but most importantly those who don't know who we are. If each of us were to share our story, we can continue this legacy.

I am looking forward to the year ahead. While I don't make resolutions, I do commit to telling my Angus story every chance I get. I hope you will do the same.

Julie Murnin January 2017