

# New Beginnings Start with a Reflection Back

January, a time of the year for resolutions and a feeling of “new year, new slate”. Before we look ahead with optimism and eagerness, let's step back and reflect on the end of the American Angus Auxiliary's past year.

Cindy Ahearn, as our President last year, led us into a year of renewed partnership and understandings within our association — The Angus Foundation, Angus Media, CAB and the Angus Association staff. We did more than any year before “electronically” while continuing to carry out our traditions. Thank you, Cindy.

You can't have a new beginning without an ending preceding it. A call for change and a move toward progress establishes a history and how we chart our new beginnings.

Many people inside and outside of the Auxiliary share my sincere gratitude to Leslie Mindemann, as she steps down as our bookkeeper, a role she has fulfilled for the last decade! Leslie volunteered for this role at the time she was elected as one of our first Regional Directors. She continued the role as she moved through her officer roles retiring off the Executive Committee and as bookkeeper this year. We can't thank you enough, Leslie, for your dedication, service and continued heart of a volunteer for the Angus Auxiliary.

We had a wonderful time at the Annual Angus Convention and were happy to see many attend the activities throughout the weekend. Those that attended the presentation of prepared speeches of the Miss American Angus candidates were not disappointed. Our congratulations go out to Eva Hinrichsen as she began her reign as our 2020 Miss American Angus right out of the gate after the convention at NAILE, in Louisville KY, two weeks later.

I would also like to introduce the 2020 Auxiliary officer team:

**President**                      Gina Hope - VA

**President Elect**              Pam Velisek - MD

**Secy-Treasurer**              Deanna Hofing - IN

**Advisor**                         Cindy Ahearn - TX

**Region 1 Dir.** Cindy Worthington -CA

**Region 2 Dir.** Vivian Wolf - TX

**Region 3 Dir** Marya Haverkamp - KS

**Region 4 Dir** Julie Conover - MO

**Region 5 Dir** Rebecca Knott - IN

**Region 6 Dir** Valerie Trowbridge - PA

This team held its first meeting in Reno on Sunday and we had engaging discussions of new ideas, set some deadlines and are looking forward to our next meeting in the spring.

I close on this chilly winter day wishing everyone a very Happy New Year. Looking forward to a year filled with new beginnings that are intertwined with history, tradition and a desire to step out of the norm and first serve others before thinking of self through so many opportunities to do so within the Angus family.

Gina Hope  
December 2019