



Auxiliary Notes

► by Amy Iman Bellis, president, American Angus Auxiliary

Turning a new page

Behind my father's desk was a wall of cabinets that rose as far as a child's eye could see. In these cabinets, he kept many mysterious items like sale bills, bull books and stacks of Frank Champion Murphy prints. Dad would give these prints to bull buyers and other customers. I most fondly remember the one of the bull calf and the butterfly. If you could sneak them out of the cabinets, they made top-notch coloring sheets when turned over. Who would have guessed that these prints and Angus cattle would play such an important part in our lives today? As we begin 2004, the American Angus Auxiliary will turn a new page — one filled with excitement for the year's activities.

NWSS to kick off 2004

The National Western Stock Show (NWSS) sets the stage for a great year each January. We have a lot planned for this year and would love to see new faces (as well as all our favorite familiar ones) at Auxiliary functions.

NJAS in Kansas City

In July, the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) will be in Kansas City, Mo. The Auxiliary is planning a "Clear the Barns" fun meeting, inviting all show moms and anyone else who would like to attend.

If you have not looked at the Auxiliary

lately, we are no longer just your mom's Auxiliary. We are an active group dedicated to maintaining the rich history of the Auxiliary and offering educational opportunities to Angus juniors. Our officer team consists of women who help with or completely handle activities on the farm, including heat detection, artificial insemination (AI), calving, fence building and recordkeeping. Make plans now to join us for a fun Kansas City event.

While in Kansas City, we would like to invite you to help with the Angus Sale Barn (formerly the Ways & Means booth). A portion of the proceeds from the booth goes to the 10 national scholarships we award to outstanding junior members each year.

You're also welcome to work behind the scenes at the 21st Auxiliary-sponsored All-

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► Auxiliary events at the NAILE, Louisville, Ky. • Nov. 15-18



PHOTOS BY CRYSTAL ALBERS

► The Auxiliary hosted a reception Saturday evening, Nov. 15. Attendees enjoyed a campfire theme with hors d'oeuvres furnished by Certified Angus Beef LLC.



► The Auxiliary honored Sandra McCurry, Mount Hope, Kan., as a Distinguished Woman and presented her with a felt hat at the Auxiliary brunch Sunday morning, Nov. 16.



► Another highlight of the Auxiliary's brunch was the performance of The Tigerette's Dance Line from Cowley County Community College, Arkansas City, Kan., featuring Sandra's granddaughter, Kami McCurry.



► **Left:** 2003 Miss American Angus Joanna Olson, Hereford, Texas (left), crowned Wravenna Phipps, Kearney, Neb. (right), the 2004 Miss American Angus, before the announcement of the champion bull Monday afternoon, Nov. 17.

► **Right:** Lisa Stream, Chariton, Iowa, competes for the honor of Miss American Angus Sunday afternoon. Five young women vied for the title, completing a written exam, speech, impromptu-question session and personal interview.



► Angus enthusiasts shopped for Angus merchandise in the Holiday Room during the NAILE. The Angus Foundation, Auxiliary and the National Junior Angus Association displayed items for purchase in the Executive West Drinkwater Room throughout the four-day event.

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American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Cook-Off. If you have ever had a child enter the Cook-Off, you know what a worthwhile educational event Anne Patton Schubert and her committee put on.

2004 American Angus Auxiliary Officers



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Louisville review

The Auxiliary annual meeting in Louisville, Ky., was entertaining this year. If you missed it, here are a few of the high points:

- Wravenna Phipps, Kearney, Neb., was crowned 2004 Miss American Angus.
- The Auxiliary gathered around the campfire Saturday evening for wonderful hors d'oeuvres furnished by Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB).
- The annual brunch was hosted by the great state of Ohio and its Angus producers. Almost 300 people attended the event, and the room was decorated with a Christmas theme. Everyone received an Angus Christmas ornament and gold ornament display stand. The highlight was the exhilarating performances of The Tigerette's Dance Line from Cowley County Community College, Arkansas City, Kan., featuring Sandra McCurry's granddaughter, Kami.
- The Auxiliary honored Sandra McCurry as a Distinguished Woman and presented her with a felt hat. Sandra leads the committee that handles all the details of our annual meeting, including the entertainment, the brunch and related events, and she is a tireless volunteer. Cecil, Sandra's husband, was also honored as a friend of the Auxiliary. He was given a funny cap featuring a ponytail that I doubt he will be sporting

at many Angus events this year.

- The reading of committee reports and officer elections highlighted the Auxiliary Annual Meeting. Our new secretary-treasurer is Sharee Sankey, Council Grove, Kan. Her family has celebrated more than 100 years in the Angus business. Sharee will be a great asset to the Auxiliary officer team.
- The Auxiliary is also glad to welcome Revonda Ratledge, East Bend, N.C., as the new chairman of the Angus Sale Barn. Revonda came to Louisville pulling the Auxiliary's new cargo trailer that will be used to haul items to shows. The addition of this trailer will help in reducing storage and shipping charges.

Plans are underway for the 2004 American Angus Auxiliary Annual Meeting. We are going to try a luncheon meeting Saturday following a shortened executive board meeting. The cattle show will not have started by then, so we hope to see more show moms at the meeting. Having our annual meeting on Saturday will free up our members who are also voting delegates to attend the American Angus Association informational forum and candidate-delegate forum on Sunday.

Sale Barn online

The Auxiliary Web site is constantly being updated under the watchful eyes of chairman Darla Eggers, Mexico, Mo., and Cheryl Oxley, Angus Productions Inc. (API) advertising/production manager. Don't forget to check the Web site for the latest additions to the Angus Sale Barn, membership information or committee information.

Angus roots

Back when I was snitching Angus prints from my dad's cabinets, I would never have guessed how much I would be involved in the Angus business. I consider my volunteer work here my chance to give back to organizations that have given so much to me and now to my children. The American Angus Association, *Angus Journal*, CAB and the Auxiliary are all worthy of a huge thank you for all they do for our industry and for our juniors.

I am delighted to be a part of it all. If you are ever traveling through the Kansas City area, please give me a holler.

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Building relationships key for former Miss American Angus

The saying "time flies when you are having fun" can definitely define my reign as 2003 Miss American Angus. Throughout my journey as Miss American Angus, I attended many shows, field days and various Angus events across the nation. I traveled as far as Reno, Nev., to Timonium, Md., totaling more than 18,000 miles of driving and flying. I will always cherish the many new experiences that I encountered during my travels, and I will reap benefits from those experiences for years to come.



One of the most important aspects of being Miss American Angus is having the opportunity to interact with many junior Angus members, along with a number of Angus breeders and leaders of this association. I was given the opportunity to build relationships by giving presentations, handing out awards at shows, walking through the barns or just simply being present at other events. Those relationships not only make a positive impact on my future, but, most importantly, they build lifelong friendships.

I encourage every junior Angus member to discover his or her full potential by finding the motivation to be more than just an Angus member — be an Angus enthusiast. Fulfilling my role as Miss American Angus has helped me

to realize my full potential and work to achieve it.

I would like to thank Ann Bell for her hard work and the wonderful job she does in coordinating the Miss American Angus contest and ensuring that Miss American Angus has an incredible experience. I would also like to thank Christy Paige for her assistance in the contest, as well as my family, the American Angus Auxiliary, the American Angus Association, the sponsors and all who have supported me throughout my reign.

— 2003 Miss American Angus Joanna Olson, Hereford, Texas