## **AUXILIARY** NOTES

by Gina Hope, President, American Angus Auxiliary

## New Beginnings

New beginnings start with a reflection. 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 reflect on the American Angus Auxiliary's past year.

Cindy Ahearn, our 2019 president, led us into renewed partnership and understandings within our association. We did more "electronically" than any year before while continuing our traditions. Thank you, Cindy.

You can't have a new beginning without an ending. A call for change and moving toward progress establishes a history and how we chart our new beginnings. Many inside and outside of the American Angus Auxiliary share my sincere gratitude to Leslie Mindemann, as she steps down as our bookkeeper, a role she fulfilled for the last decade. Leslie volunteered when she was elected as one of our first regional directors. She continued as she moved through officer roles, retiring off the executive committee and as bookkeeper this year. We can't thank you enough, Leslie, for your dedication, service and heart of a volunteer for the Auxiliary.

We had a wonderful time at Angus Convention. Those who attended the Miss American Angus candidate speech presentations were not disappointed. Our congratulations to Eva Hinrichsen, as she began her reign as our 2020 Miss American Angus.

I would also like to introduce the 2020 Auxiliary officer team: president, Gina Hope, Virginia; president-elect, Pam Velisek, Maryland; secretarytreasurer, Deanna Hofing, Indiana; advisor, Cindy Ahearn, Texas; Region 1 director, Cindy Worthington, California; Region 2 director, Vivian Wolf, Texas; Region 3 director, Marya Haverkamp, Kansas; Region 4 director, Julie Conover, Missouri; Region 5 director, Rebecca Knott, Indiana; and Region 6 director, Valerie Trowbridge, Pennsylvania.

This team hosted its first meeting in Reno, 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. We're 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.

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Angus Women Connected Conference is hosted by the American Angus Auxiliary and underwritten by the Angus Foundation. Participate in this biennial conference designed to Engage, Empower and Educate women from diverse backgrounds and demographics that share the common bond of Angus Cattle.

## For complete details and to apply, visit angusauxiliary.com

