

# AUXILIARY NOTES

by Gina Hope, President, American Angus Auxiliary

## What does innovation mean to you?

*January has come and gone and with it so many new ideas and opportunities are beginning to rise.*

I hope your 2020 year got off to a good start, and if it hasn't February may just be the turning point. This month, the subject of the *Angus Journal* is, fittingly, innovation. Specifically concerning the future of the Angus breed, it is a rather daunting topic. There are some that may say all the good ideas have been had, and maybe they are right. How does one top bringing four bulls to a new land against all odds? Or the creation of an internationally known brand? Or the skills we see in the stalls of every show?

We may look around and say, "What do we do now?" Have we seen the last mountain? Have we conquered the last challenge?

Perhaps not. We can see it in every new calf that hits the ground, and each new junior attending the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) for the first time.

In each herd there is a different quest for innovation, a different goal in mind with each step into the future. In the game of industry, we are always chasing tomorrow, and the beef industry is no different. Indeed, there are many new technologies out and coming soon to aid in the production of a successful beef herd. But not all innovation looks the same.

For some, innovation might look like a drone to fly over to check heats, fences and the overall health of a herd. For others it might look like a new gate latch the heifer on the end might not be able to figure out. That is the beauty of innovation and what keeps it alive. It is unique and specific to each operation and situation. Sure, it can be applied elsewhere; but it all started when someone thought, "I wonder..." and the flame ignited.

What an exciting time we live in today, with all of the technologies we have at our fingertips. What does innovation mean for you? It may not look like my definition of innovation, and that is ok. Sharing the information and seeing how it develops and changes is a special part of the beauty. So, I say to all of you reading this — run wild, live free and never hesitate to say, "I wonder..." You never know what may come of it.

*Gina Hope*

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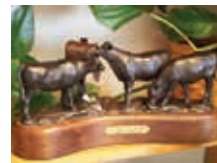
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# American Angus Auxiliary Annual Meeting Minutes

*The following is a review of the topics discussed and action taken*

*Saturday, Nov. 2, 2019, in Reno, Nev.*

President Cindy Ahearn called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

## Welcome

Cindy welcomed everyone and introduced the executive committee, committee chairs, state presidents, Distinguished Women and past presidents.

Mark McCully, American Angus Association CEO, welcomed the American Angus Auxiliary to the Angus Convention and thanked the organization for all they do for the Association and the juniors. He is excited about his new position and looking forward to the coming year.

Cindy welcomed the reigning Miss American Angus, Madison Weaver. Madison shared just a little of her year with us and thanked the Auxiliary for all of their support. She presented her final overview of the year at the Auxiliary Breakfast.

## Minutes

A motion was made by Julie Murnin to accept the minutes of the mid-year meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Carol Bloom. The motion passed.

## Treasurer's report

Pam Velisek presented the treasurer's report. No motion is needed and the report will be filed in the records of the Auxiliary.

## Committee reports

Historian Emma Collins reported that the scrapbook was complete for 2019 and was in the Angus Gift Barn to view.

Anne Lampe, Women Connected chairperson, reported that a 2020 Women's Connected will be hosted in Wooster, Ohio at Certified Angus Beef LLC. The dates are March 4-6, 2020. The applications will be on the Auxiliary website and due Jan. 15.

Whitney Trosper-Renfro, Miss American Angus co-chair, announced the five contestants for this year. They were Eva Hinrichsen, Kansas; Morgan Knapp, Iowa; Hailey Roye, Arkansas; Mardee Sadowsky, Missouri and Claire Stevenson, Montana. The judges were Abby Nelson, Beth Murphy Ryan and Dick Hubman. Whitney also announced that the "Trosper girls" would be retiring this year as co-chairs and that Paige Wallace Arnold and Cortney Hill-Dukehart Cates will be the new co-chairs.

Julie Murnin shared that the agreement with Angus Media had been signed and they were very generous with what they gave the Auxiliary. All press releases and public relations publications must go through Julie, public relations chairperson, and she will forward to the appropriate departments.

Chair Shally Rogen gave a Full Circle Online Auction report and let everyone know the bidding was now open. There were 25 items to bid on and sale concluded on Nov. 7, 2019. Members were encouraged to get donations from their state auxiliaries for next year.

Gina Hope gave a report on the scholarship committee this year. All went really well with the digital applications, and the judges seemed

really happy with them. Instead of a follow-up conference call this year, the committee was able to do all new questions via email and all ran very smoothly. Gina presented the two names for judges to the executive committee and they were approved.

Christy Perdue and Anne Lampe went over the hours and the new items for the Angus Gift Barn. Everyone was encouraged to shop.

## Old Business

All of the endowment agreements have now been signed between the Auxiliary and the Angus Foundation. The name of the Pat Grote Scholarship Endowment Fund will now be known as the Pat Grote LEAD Sponsorship Fund. The name was changed because it is for a specific event and not a "scholarship." Articles III and IV contradict each other and Cindy will speak with Kenny Miller, American Angus Association CFO, about correcting the wording.

The Auxiliary now has a signed agreement with Angus Media, getting everything asked for except the December issue. Julie Murnin, chairman, discussed her goals for public relations and working with the committee chairs to get the information published. Angus Media will take care of printing the cookbooks for the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef* (CAB<sup>®</sup>) Cook-off Contest and updating the website; both of which a fee will be paid, but that is normal "cost of doing business." Julie asked that all public relations items need to go through her as she will

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take care of getting all items to the correct people for publication.

The Auxiliary has worked hard this year to update the membership list and move most communication to all digital. The spring and fall Posts were mailed this year, but moving forward (provided Bylaw change is passed) communication will be going all digital with the exception of the people who specifically requested a copy be mailed.

## Finance

Nancy Thelen, finance chair went over the 2019-2020 budget that was presented to the executive committee at their meeting and was voted on at that time.

## Nominating committee

President Cindy Ahearn announced the appointments of Cara Ayres and Karla Knapp to the committee.

Megan Ahearn moved to accept Cara to the committee, seconded by Carol Bloom. The motion passed. Nancy Thelen moved to accept Karla to the committee, seconded by Lynn Hinrichsen. The motion passed.

President Cindy Ahearn appointed Mary McCurry and Renee Driscoll as tellers for election.

The proposed Bylaw changes were published in the fall 2019 Post, and copies were provided at check-in. Mary McCurry made a motion to accept the proposed changes as presented in Post, seconded by Julie Murnin. The motion passed.

The slate of officers presented for 2020 included:

President: Gina Hope

President-elect: Pam Velisek

Secretary-treasurer: Deanna Hofing

Past president/advisor: Cindy Ahearn

Having no nominations from the

floor the vote was cast and approved.

Leslie Mindemann then announced the new regional directors which included:

Region 4: Julie Conover

Region 5: Rebecca Knott

Region 6: Valerie Trowbridge

Cindy Worthington of California was appointed to fill Carol DeMeyers' position in Region 1, as she is moving to Ohio out of her region.

Cindy passed the gavel to Gina Hope as new president. Gina thanked Cindy for all she accomplished this year, and we look forward to Cindy moving into the advisor position.

Shally Rogen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Karla Knapp. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

*Editor's note: The report was submitted by Pam Velisek, 2019 secretary-treasurer.*

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*Editor's note: report submitted  
by Gina Hope, 2018 secretary-  
treasurer.*

AJ