

Auxiliary Action

by Jane Ebert, president, American Angus Auxiliary



Gearing up for NJAS, 50th anniversary activities

Charlie Schultz once said, "Life is like a 10-speed bike. Most of us have gears we never use." These past few months I have discovered that Angus people do use and share their gears. As you read along, I hope you will discover that each of us has a bike and gears that are waiting to be used.

Life at Eberlee Farms is just like a weather forecast — it changes not daily but hourly. In the past month, we have had the opportunity to move our daughter Betsie to her first real job.

Many of you may remember Betsie's involvement in the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA), the Atlantic National and the North Carolina Junior Angus Association. No longer a junior Angus member, she has entered the world of employment in Harrisonburg, Va. She is employed with an engineering company, giving leadership to its environmental component.

Saying all of this gives me joy to share that Angus always will be a friend and a "Scotch comb" to our family. Settling in a new area, Betsie didn't take long to check into the Virginia Angus Association, Virginia Junior Angus Association and Virginia Angus Auxiliary memberships and to be surrounded by a genuine welcome. I see the Angus business as more than just cattle — it's people who care.

It's almost show time

Denver, here we come for the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS)! The Auxiliary will be very involved in the week's activities. The highlight will be the Auxiliary-sponsored *Certified Angus Beef*® Cook-Off.

The Auxiliary also sponsors the Crystal Award, Silver Pitcher awards and showmanship awards.

Volunteers needed

Of course, there's work to be done, and we need the membership to volunteer time to work with Marjorie Perkins and the committee at the Ways and Means booth. The booth will offer items for every member of the family. Check out this area for personal and gift items. Participant T-shirts again will be sold at the exhibit area. Contact Marjorie before the show to volunteer, or come by the booth and sign up during the show.

Fashion show

Speaking of clothes and the like, what woman or young lady doesn't like a fashion show? It's going to happen at the Auxiliary meeting during the NJAS on Thursday, July 12. A talented Auxiliary member and clothing designer, Pam Silveira, Silveira Brothers Angus, has stepped up to assist in raising funds to support the Auxiliary. Pam, who sells the Weekenders USA line of clothing, will offer clothing items for purchase at the NJAS and in Louisville at our Annual Meeting. A portion of the profits from the sale of these clothes will be contributed to the educational projects and activities of the Auxiliary.

Circle and date your calendars for the meeting and fashion show to be conducted at the National Western Complex July 12 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the National Western Club room. Plans are to provide a "dutch" luncheon.

'Hidden' treasures

Another bright spot for me this month has been discovering a best-kept secret — Rachel Breck of Connecticut. Many Angus members know Rachel for her contributions to the breed. To me, she is a new friend and pen pal. Rachel is retired but is an active Angus enthusiast.

She has contributed a treasured porcelain herd — about 20 cows — to be auctioned at our Annual Meeting in Louisville to support the Auxiliary scholarship program. Another interesting fact I discovered about Rachel is that she is a needlework artist and recently won a coveted award for her art. Watch out, Louisville — Rachel may have an exhibit for us.

2002 is the 50th anniversary of the Auxiliary. Contributions like Rachel's could add a special touch to our anniversary kick-off. I know other Angus treasures like Rachel are hidden. Let me hear from you so we can include you in our celebration. All it takes is a call!

Membership continues to grow for the Auxiliary, and we encourage membership on the state and national levels. Not sure if an auxiliary exists in your state? Call Vickie Meiburg at (810) 688-2222 to check. The Auxiliary Extension Committee is ready to assist in organizing a group in your state or region.

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