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AUXILIARY NOTES

by Gina Hope, President, American Angus Auxiliary

Open the Toolbox

I looked at this month's theme, and the question came to mind:

"Could the American Angus Auxiliary be considered a trade?"

If it could, what would the tools of our trade be? I worried then if I have enough space in this article to open up the mental toolbox of the Auxiliary and start looking at the tools inside. There is more in our toolbox than Wikipedia's definition of "skill and equipment."

I'll open the toolbox and show you what I mean. True, we have equipment we use. We have our computers, cell phones, tablets, Wi-Fi, internet, cameras, even a typewriter or two, and use pen and paper with the Auxiliary logo proudly displayed.


But move that top shelf of equipment in the toolbox out of the way — it's what's in the guts of the box I want to dig out now. Tools I like to use when working alongside other members, and tools we need to ensure are taken care of properly.

My daddy used to fuss when we would not clean the mower after use, fill the gas back up in it or check the oil so it would be reliable when we had to next use it. We have to tend to these tools in a similar way,

but what are the tools that I am talking about?

- Volunteering
- Fundraising
- Partnership
- Networking
- Common goals
- Meetings
- Programs
- Friendship

Taking care of these tools will continue to allow the Auxiliary to work together to perform its trade — serving as an advocate for the Angus breed and providing educational programs and activities for adults and juniors for years to come.

Look in your mental toolbox — are there some tools we can share to make the Auxiliary the best at its "trade?" 

Gina Hope

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