# **Auxiliary Action**

by Jane Ebert, president, American Angus Auxiliary

## **Leadership conference sets course for the future**

Twenty-one American Angus Auxiliary members convened May 4-5 in Saint Joseph, Mo., for the first Auxiliary leadership conference. Conference attendees were challenged to develop an Auxiliary mission statement and long-range goals.

I welcomed the group with a challenge to make the most of the opportunities, choices and attitudes that would be presented during the 2,880 minutes to follow. Each day is a unique gift that cannot be exchanged, replaced or refunded; and that's how we approached each day of our conference.

Attendees joined the conference with input and enthusiasm for growing the

organization in the new century. Day 1 included presentations by Scott Johnson, Angus Information Management Software (AIMS) director, and Angie Denton, Angus Productions Inc. (API) Web marketing director.

The Auxiliary trust officer, Bob Siemens, Gold Trust Co., presented "Perspectives and Growth for Tomorrow's Leaders" and challenged the Auxiliary to formulate a set of financial guidelines representative of the goals designed in the leadership conference.

Deb Leonard, Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) public relations and marketing



Association and API. The day ended with dinner at the Saint Joseph Country Club.

Day 2 offered an intense self-evaluation and a "big picture" look at the beef industry, the Angus business and the Auxiliary's mission as it relates to both.

Nancy Sullivan, Auxiliary secretary-treasurer, facilitated the session "Excellence, No Exception: Stepping up to the Next 50 Years With a Vision and Redefined Mission." Nancy provided a look at perceptions of the American Angus Auxiliary, its programs, changes in the industry and challenges those changes are creating. Education, time management and financing were the three main areas of goal setting.

The evening's activities included a tour of the Pony Express Museum, a barbecue, and songs by Junior Activities Director James Fisher and his sister, Linda Ritchie.

An awesome 48 hours marked the beginning of a plan of action and formation of guidelines for the Auxiliary. Members from seven states participated.

Publicity Committee Chairwoman Kelli Toledo secured more than 20 door prizes for the conference.

On behalf of the Auxiliary, let me salute the site planning and hospitality crew, the Association, API, the Association Board of Directors, and staff members Pat Musil and Cheryl Oxley. What a team! A copy of the conference report will be presented at the midyear Auxiliary meeting in Denver, Colo., Thursday, July 12, in the National Western Club Room at the National Western Complex.



Members attending the first American Angus Auxiliary conference include (front row, from top) Mary McCurry, Burrton, Kan.; Jane Ebert, Lexington, N.C.; Misti Kohart, Meade, Kan.; Amy Bellis, Orrick, Mo.; Nancy Sullivan, Pella, Iowa; Chris Stucky, Kingman, Kan.; Ardyce O'Neill, Logan, Iowa; Nellie Meinders, New Sharon, Iowa; Betsy Indreland, Big Timber, Mont.; (back row, from top) Pam Bailey, Douglass, Kan.; Anne Lampe, Scott City, Kan.; Pam Patterson, Columbus, Mont.; Jackie Witte, Saint Louis, Mo.; Darla Eggers, Mexico, Mo.; Yvonne Hinman, Malta, Mont.; Sandy Trosper, Hamilton, Mo.; Pat Grote, Bennington, Okla.; and Joann Pipkin, Republic, Mo.

### 2001 AMERICAN ANGUS AUXILIARY OFFICERS

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#### **Auxiliary supports the NJAS**

The National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) is a highlight for the Auxiliary membership as we support and enjoy the fruits of labor by our junior members. The Auxiliary-sponsored *Certified Angus Beef* Cook-Off will be conducted under the leadership of the Beef Education Committee and its chairwoman, Anne Patton Schubert.

Other awards to be presented by the Auxiliary at the NJAS will be the Crystal Award, given to the high-point-winning male and female in nonshowring activities; the Silver Pitcher award, given to the person accumulating the most points in the cattle show; showmanship awards (silver bowls) given to the top five showmen, with the top winner's being declared the Dean Hurlbut Showmanship Award winner; and the top five male and top five female scholarship applicants. The female scholarship winners will have the opportunity to compete for Miss American Angus in November.

The Auxiliary not only is sponsoring activities but also is actively involved in providing leadership to junior activities and in hosting the Auxiliary Ways and Means Booth.

#### **Honorary membership**

For the past few months, the Legislative and Bylaws Committee has been busy



Members of the American Angus Auxiliary toured the facilities of the American Angus Association and Angus Productions Inc. (API) while attending the group's first leadership conference. Attendees from seven states participated in workshops and a long-range-planning session to plan for the future of the organization.

responding to questions about the membership status of female scholarship winners and present and former Miss American Angus. Female scholarship winners and Miss American Angus are presented honorary Auxiliary memberships.

Honorary members may attend all meetings. They shall be exempt from paying dues and cannot hold office or vote unless they have attained active member status. If the Miss American Angus or female scholarship winners wish to have active or lifetime membership, which provides voting rights, they must pay the active regular or lifetime membership fee. Additional questions on this subject may be posed to Linda Brost, Legislative and Bylaws Committee chairwoman.

What a whirl and twirl this summer has provided. I can quote my mother so vividly as she was always telling me, "So much to do and so little time!" I didn't understand what she meant until I reached adulthood. It's great being a kid and keeping our childhood memories as we grow in wisdom and knowledge.

See you in Denver!

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#### **Historical note**

1960: Greta Heckett and Jean Brandrup of the *Angus Journal* became the first honorary members of the Auxiliary. The scholarship fund totaled \$6,503.62.