AUXILIARY NOTES

by Julie Conover, president, American Angus Auxiliary

Traditions Built

The American Angus Auxiliary consists of members from 41 states and one Canadian province. In total, we have more than 800 life members.

The organization was chartered in 1952 with a mission for women Angus breeders and wives of Angus breeders to get better acquainted, promote the breed and present awards to deserving youth showing Aberdeen-Angus projects.

Now in its 71st year, the mission has expanded to offer individuals interested in the Angus breed the opportunity to provide educational, promotional and social programs and activities.

Here are some key founding numbers to consider:

- In 1953, the prestigious Silver
 Pitcher award presentation began
 at the Chicago International Stock
 Show and was presented to honor
 a young lady excelling in show ring
 achievements. The recognition
 was moved to the National Junior
 Angus Show (NJAS) and expanded
 in 1993 to also recognize a young
 man.
- The American Angus Auxiliary Scholarship Program was established in 1956, with the first \$300 scholarship awarded in 1957. The program expanded in 1969 to add a boys' division and now awards five female and five male high school graduates.
- In 1967 the Auxiliary made the decision to package the scholarship winner and the National Angus

Queen. Sharon Harrold became the first National Angus Queen in 1968 as the scholarship winner. The title changed to Miss American Angus in 1973. The selection process pivoted in 1980 with the tradition of hosting a Miss American Angus contest with the top scholarship winners eligible to compete.

- •The first-place winner at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) Showmanship Contest in 1967 received an engraved silver bowl. In 1969 the Auxiliary began presenting bowls to the top five finishers.
- •The Crystal Award presentation began in 1999, honoring one boy and girl who excel in NJAS educational contest participation.
- The All-American Certified Angus Beef Cook-Off contest began in 1983 and has grown to be one of the largest competitions at NJAS.

If you are not currently a member, consider joining! We look forward to seeing many of our members at our annual meeting in November. If you would like to get more involved, please reach out to myself or any of our Auxiliary officers or regional directors.

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