

AUXILIARY NOTES

by Gina Hope, President, American Angus Auxiliary

Aiming for a Target

I loved the theme for this month — “On Target.” It is fitting for this time of the year, isn’t it?

Hunting season is upon some of us, or right around the corner. It is time to dig out (and wash, please!) the blaze orange. It’s time to sight in the guns and practice with the bows to be sure whatever target we are aiming at is hit.

It is also another favorite time — all the pumpkin spice drinks and candles come out!

But I know we can all relate to the feeling of frustration as we practice day and night, plan, and put our best foot forward, only to fall short by just a few points. A reward hard-won is a great feeling because of all the trials we go through reaching our target.


Even on the days we miss the mark, to handle it with grace prepares you

for the next journey and improves your aim for the next target. It was always a productive evening when our family hit the drawing board the evening after a show to figure out where we could improve.

“Trust your gut and pray” is what my mother used to say to me. I believe you know at various times in your life the target you are aiming for. I have found it has sometimes helped me to determine the target and then backtrack to where I am, noting the steps I need to take to reach the target — then simply implement them. That’s easier said than done when the target changes, moves or adds requirements that

were not there at the start.

Flexibility, then, is needed to keep the aim true. Understand the achievements you have made in the past may not have a bearing on what you are aiming for today, but instead were the experience needed to truly shine in this new moment.

Rise up, take a breath and check your aim again. A missed shot, if looked at with the right perspective, will surely guide you in your aim the next go ’round. Don’t give up — sight in and take aim again! 

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