

AUXILIARY NOTES

by Pam Velisek, President, American Angus Auxiliary

Fruits of Labor

“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.” —Henry Ford

Thinking of my time working with the American Angus Auxiliary and the previous 69 years in which it has supported young and experienced Angus breeders, this quote hit home to me — imagining the strength of the women who dreamed this organization up and followed it through to its existence.

I can't help but think that they would be proud of what this has become and how much good the Auxiliary has spread in support of the junior program over the years. All by following Mr. Ford's thoughts by coming together, keeping together and working together.


I turn over the gavel to my successor at our Annual Meeting in November in Fort Worth. This year has been a true learning experience. There are so many facets and moving parts to the Auxiliary that go on behind the scenes, it is mind-blowing. The ladies in this organization are second to none. They take on a challenge headfirst.

We started this year off a little on the lean side financially, set out to make up a deficit and hit the ground running. We had a few very successful fundraisers throughout the year and have successfully closed the gap and increased our endowments.

Being in the cattle business makes

it easy to see the fruits of your labor. Nothing is more rewarding than seeing that new calf hit the ground and a good mama cow immediately go to work on bringing life to it. We work hard to make the right choices picking genetics that will improve our herd and the right choices for our customers to help them improve their herds and achieve their goals as well as our own.

It also works the other way around. If we support others' aspirations and goals; if we encourage them to pursue their dreams, it can often come back around twofold. The American Angus Auxiliary works on this very premise. We support the youngest of our Angus family with scholarships, contest sponsorships, educational support and adult education for our members. This, in turn, helps them become the successful adults they strive to be.

Then, when they come back to the breed to give back, or even if they don't but use our help to further their life in another field, it is truly easy to see the fruits of our labor. 

Pam Velisek

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