

# **NJAS** wrap-up

"It is not our abilities that show what we truly are. It is our choices."

 Professor Dumbledore to Harry Potter in Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets, by J.K. Rowling

# Mid-year summary

What a great quote! As true Angus enthusiasts we make many choices. If this summer you and your family chose to go to the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Louisville, Ky., you were again impressed with our Angus juniors and all of their great choices.

Many women made the choice to come to the American Angus Auxiliary mid-year meeting. For those who weren't there, here is a quick update of some of the topics that were covered.

- ► The second annual "Excellence, No Exceptions" Conference is set for May 2005 at the American Angus Association headquarters in Saint Joseph, Mo.
- ► A printed version of the PowerPoint® presentation shown at the June 2003 American Angus Association Board of Directors meeting was distributed to members.
- ► The Ways & Means chairman's incentive and items were introduced. Members were shown how to access items available on the Auxiliary's Web site. Suggestions for a catchy name for the site include:
  - Everything Angus;
  - Black Market Moo-tique;
  - Auxiliary Moo'ving Gifts;
  - The Mooving Salebarn;
  - Auxiliary Storefront;
  - Angus Marketplace;
  - Black Market; and
  - Angus Salebarn.

Please e-mail me at sjscartersville@aol.com with your choice or a new suggestion.

### **New award**

The American Angus Auxiliary has developed the Richard L. Spader Memorial Belt Buckle Award to be given in his honor to the winner of the senior division of the extemporaneous speaking contest.

Working with youth was one of Spader's passions. The Association's former executive vice president was known for his ability to communicate effectively and enjoyed helping develop those abilities in Angus youth.

## **Miss American Angus task force**

A task force was organized to consider broadening the Miss American Angus application process.

Following are the proposed guidelines that the American Angus Auxiliary Executive Committee would like members to consider in revising the selection process of the Miss American Angus contest. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this issue, please feel free to contact the task force. Please write to the task force so that all communication can be documented. The task force is dedicated to researching all of the issues associated with the possible change in the selection of Miss American Angus. The proposed guidelines would state:

Applicants for the Miss American Angus title could range in age from 18 to 21. The age guidelines would mirror the NJAA (National Junior Angus Association) age guidelines for senior competition. Every applicant would

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submit an application to the American Angus Auxiliary. It would detail their leadership abilities; junior Angus involvement; and community, school, 4-H and FFA involvement.

A committee would judge these applications prior to the NIAS. Each application would then receive a numerical score and ranking. Applicants would also be required to enter the prepared public speaking contest and the extemporaneous public speaking contest at the NIAS. The NIAA contest rules and requirements would apply to these contestants. Contests will be judged by a panel of judges, and contestants will receive a numerical score and ranking. These scores would be available on Thursday evening prior to the Friday evening awards ceremony.

An Auxiliary committee would take these scores, as well as the application scores, and select the top five girls who would be announced at the NJAS on awards night. Finalists would advance to the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in Louisville, Ky., to compete for the Miss American Angus title. The contest at the NAILE in Louisville would remain unchanged.

Shirley Williams, secretary-treasurer of the American Angus Auxiliary, is chairwoman of the task force. She can be contacted at PO Box 789, Fort Smith, AR 72902; or williamsfairoaks@aol.com. The task force includes: Mary McCurry, Burrton, Kan.; Merridee Wells, Hamilton, Texas; Anne Lampe, Scott City, Kan.; Nancy Thelen, Saline, Mich.; Marlene Dukehart, Sykesville, Md.; Gigi Hunter, Fair Grove, Mo.; Whitney Trosper, Hamilton, Mo.; Joann Pipkin, Springfield, Mo.; Kathleen McGuire, Fort Smith, Ark.; and Yvonne Hinman, Malta, Mont.

#### **Increasing dues**

Minutes of the mid-year meeting will be published next month.

Please make the choice to get more involved in the American Angus Auxiliary.

Beginning Nov. 1, 2003, lifetime memberships increase from \$100 to \$200. Annual dues remain \$10 for active members, but will increase to \$25 per year for Auxiliary members who wish to support the Auxiliary financially but can't participate on a committee at this time. This may be the time to get your Auxiliary lifetime membership.

Thanks for choosing to read this article and for all you do to support our Angus youth through the American Angus Auxiliary.

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