



Auxiliary Notes

► by Amy Iman Bellis, president, American Angus Auxiliary

Delights of the show season

Show season is in full swing, and the daily thrill of washing, blowing and tying under the fans has begun here on the farm. I don't know how so much junk found its way into the showbarn during the winter months. It has all been removed, and the barn has been cleared for the season.

Stepping into the season

Cleaning out the showbox was laughable. There was a football, water balloons, a deck of cards and the ever-present assortment of ribbons. We usually hit as many as 30 shows per year chasing Missouri Cattlemen's Association junior points. In the past, Kirk and I have spent spring weekends helping break calves and driving to shows, but this year is not the same. This year, our kids — Holly, 15, and Garren, 13 — broke their calves themselves. They load the heavy chutes, showbox and fans in the trailer. Holly can even drive with one of us in the passenger's seat.

Next year, I just may find myself out of a job when she can drive to shows by herself. I still intend to tag along like I do now. I am just glad the kids are so interested in their animals, the showing and showmanship. What they could be doing instead of showing cattle is a scary proposition these days.

As show parents, we are there to wash an

occasional calf, to hold the rope halter while they are in the ring, and to go on fast-food runs. We are there supporting our juniors.

It is the same with the American Angus Auxiliary. To me, Auxiliary members are here to support our National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members. One of our main meetings each year is at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). Our biggest responsibilities there involve junior competitions, awards and scholarships.

Celebrating junior achievements

► The **Janet Castle Crystal Award** is given each year to the highest-placing female and highest-placing male junior Angus members in NJAS educational contests, including the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® Cook-Off, photography, graphic design, poster, creative writing, public speaking, extemporaneous speaking, team sales and quiz bowl. Cathy Watkins of Beaver Ridge Farm, Middletown, Ind., has generously

funded the Crystal awards for four more years.

► **Silver Pitcher awards** are presented to one male NJAA member and one female member who accumulate the most points in the NJAS showing. Points are awarded in each of the following categories: steer, cow-calf, owned heifer, bred-and-owned heifer, and bred-and owned bull. This will be the 25th year this award has been given to a female recipient and the 11th year it has been given to a male recipient.

► **Ten American Angus Auxiliary scholarships** are given to juniors each year. Five will be awarded to female recipients and five to male recipients.

► **Achievement awards** are given to junior members each year for their accomplishments with Angus cattle. Congratulations to each Achievement Award winner listed on the next page.

Midyear meeting reminder

Don't forget to come to the Auxiliary meeting at the NJAS on Thursday, July 15, at 11:30 a.m. We have a fun program planned. A dietitian will inform us how to include beef in a healthy diet. Tammy Campbell, a Green City, Mo., Angus producer will also entertain us with quick, easy, affordable food items ideal for busy farm wives and show moms. Come sample items and bring the

From the desk of Miss American Angus ...

A hush comes over the crowd; all eyes are on the showing. He picks up the microphone ready to announce the winner. However, this time, it wasn't for the champion heifer, but the naming of the 2004 Miss American Angus (MAA). As I heard my name called, my whole body wanted to jump with excitement.

Yes, this moment was definitely a dream come true! As the pictures were being taken and congratulatory remarks made, I couldn't help but think about all the past women named Miss American Angus who had stood in that very same spot, feeling this same rush of emotions. It was at this point I realized I was becoming one of those girls I had looked up to for so long. I couldn't wait to start my adventures. Now, just a few months later, I have an even deeper respect for those young women who had such a positive impact on my life.

As I attended the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver in January, I was greatly affected by the state queens who assisted me through the week. Not only were these girls goal-driven and

extremely motivated in life, but they possessed an obvious passion for agriculture and the Angus industry. One girl told me about her desire to become a state FFA officer, another expressed her enthusiasm with international affairs and how she plans to be a part of that some day, while another said her goal was to be Miss American Angus.

Wow! I couldn't help but think of some of the advice and encouragement past MAAs had given me. Now it's my turn to motivate these young girls to believe in themselves and realize nothing is out of their reach. I know as the year continues for me, I will have many opportunities to be that voice of encouragement to someone.

I'll always remember that day in the showing, waiting to hear if my name would be called. I also realize that this is just the beginning of my memories as MAA. As MAA, my advice to you is "Shoot for the moon, because even if you miss, you are still among stars!"

— *Wravenna Phipps, 2004 MAA*

other show moms out of the barns with you. We are planning a fun meeting, and there is no better time to join an organization that works to reward our juniors.

After all, isn't supporting our juniors the reason we're at the NJAS? I challenge each of you to get involved, help our juniors and give something back.



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Juniors Earn Achievement Awards

The American Angus Auxiliary recognizes youth for their accomplishments with Angus cattle by awarding them a Certificate of Achievement. While the Auxiliary intends to report all winners in the May youth-focused issue of the *Angus Journal*, not all states had submitted their winners at press time. The *Angus Journal* will publish other Achievement Award winners within the "Next Generation" column as they become available.

The following junior members have been awarded Achievement Awards.

■ Indiana

Christina Harp
Baron Rieker
Christoph Rieker
Katarina Rieker
Steven Rieker
Zachary Rieker
Jayme Sherfield
Kara Wilson
Katelyn Wilson

■ Iowa

Stephanie Arp
Lauren Barker
Tyler Becker
Austin Brandt
Weston Brandt
Joe Burns
Dustin Carter
Montana Deppe
Bridget Driscoll
Patrick Driscoll
Bryanne Duckett
Brianna Gray
Zane Gray
Zebadiah Gray
Cole Greiman
Kyle Greiman
Tyler Henderson
Jon Jacobs
Abby Janssen
Katie Jensen
Justin Kress
Ashley Kuehn
Caitlin Kuehn
Denae Leonard
Samantha McElhinney
Landi McFarland
Craig Moffitt
Laura Mommsen
Michael Murphy
Trent Murphy

Wesley Ruby
Troy Schermer
Drew Schroeder
Jason Schroeder
Lauren Schroeder
Lisa Stream
Sarah Stream
Chance Sullivan
James Sweeney
Joe Sweeney
Curtis Thelen
Amanda Wical
Matt Wical

■ Maryland

Cortney Hill-Dukehart

■ Michigan

Brit Boehmer
Erika Boehmer
Evan Boehmer
Ricka Boehmer
Drew Bordner
Hope Bordner
Ben Canfield
Heather Canfield
Andrew Foster
Danielle Foster
Benjamin Goheen

Mitchell Goheen
Nicole Heil
R. Scott Heil
Emily Hogberg
Bradey Neitzke
Chelsea Ruggles
Wren Schroeder
Julie Thelen
Renee Thelen
Patti Vaassen
Rachael Vaassen

■ Montana

Olivia Barragree
Zane Barragree
Ashley Berkram
Cortney Bromenshenk
Chelcie Cremer
Allison Dubs
Katrina Dubs
Rebecca Eliasson
Greg Goggins
Savannah Green
Lorissa Harris
Beth Hooker
Shane Hooker
Jacki Jacobsen
Emily Kading
Kelley Knight

Pamela Knight
Josh Koch
Austin Malek
Sara McKinnon
Kaleigh Mikkelsen
Abby Mytty
Kyla Olson
Shelbi Perkins
Karin Romanchuk
Brittany Stevenson
Miles Suberg
Dan Vanek
Pam Vanek
Will VanHaur
Cadence Younkin

■ Pennsylvania

Jessica Schmidt

■ Texas

Megan Ahearn
Callie Donaldson
Inabeth Donaldson
Gretchen Ettredge
Tammy Ettredge
Kevin Gleason
Mark Gleason
Jaci Jagggers
Jentry Jagggers
Jill Jagggers
Austin John
C. A. Jones
Logan Lastovica
Mollie Lastovica
Dustin Lehne
Taylor McQueen
Katy Satree
Drew Slattery
Wade Wells
Zachary Wells
Brazos Williams
Tylee Jo Williams

