



Auxiliary Notes

► by **Amy Iman Bellis**, president, American Angus Auxiliary

Seasonal changes

To those of us in Missouri, August means Missouri State Fair time. It is the time of year that our children look forward to most. It provides them with the opportunity to see friends that they cannot see at any other show. Since it falls right before or right on the beginning of the school year, the state fair marks the passing of summer.

Summertime fun

As parents, the state fair can be summed up simply by: sand, dirt, sweat, missing kids and sore feet. The fair offers two weeks of deluxe accommodations (Not!), some of our toughest laundry challenges ever, and a great chance to sweat and walk off unwanted pounds accumulated during the year.

As bad as it sounds, we actually look forward to the fair as much as the kids. Well, almost. We even indulge in the occasional caramel apple or funnel cake. The jaunts between the Angus barn and the steer barn do allow us to stop and catch up with a bunch of cattle producers. And, it is amazing to see how much the kids in our Angus family have grown since the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS).

While some of you are enjoying your August in the air conditioning, think about your Angus counterparts basking in the record-setting heat in Missouri. I am sure we will be sharing stories about surviving the NJAS as its host, and we will be making plans for the one in Denver, Colo., next July.

Thank you to the many committees who put on this wonderful junior show. And, hurrah to all the juniors who competed at the 2004 NJAS in Kansas City, Mo.

Scholarship winners

At the NJAS, the Auxiliary proudly announced the 10 winners of our American

Angus Auxiliary 2004 national scholarships. Congratulations to all the applicants who won their state scholarship contests and made it to the national competition. We had 14 girl entries and 12 boy entries, representing the best Angus juniors from 20 states. The 10 Auxiliary scholarship winners are:

- First place (\$1,200): Kristen Oaks, Calhoun, La., and Garrett Lampe, Scott City, Kan.
- Second place (\$1,050): Chelsey Warfield, Andersonville, Tenn., and John Pfeiffer, Mulhall, Okla.
- Third place (\$950): Dana May, Mineral Point, Wis., and Drew Schroeder, Clarence, Iowa.
- Fourth place (\$850): Brittany Gillig, Aurora, Mo., and Evan Boehmer, Olivet, Mich.
- Fifth place (\$800): Kindra Wood, Holly Pond, Ala., and Justin Brosey, Hamilton, Ohio.

A total of \$9,700 from the Auxiliary was awarded in scholarships to our juniors this year. Funding for these scholarships has been made available through Auxiliary programs and fund-raisers such as our auction items at Louisville, Ky., and the Angus Sale Barn at the NJAS and Louisville. I want to thank everyone who has helped make these scholarships available and to the judging

committee and chairman, Shirley Williams, for a job well done. Each year, this committee continues to select the “best of the best” for our scholarship winners. We welcome your input on our scholarship program and encourage you to help us celebrate and reward our Angus juniors.

In appreciation

My notes would not be complete each month without thanking people who make the Auxiliary wheels turn and events happen. I cannot say thank you enough to a pair of Missouri women who simply get things done right. Cheryl Oxley of the *Angus Journal* and Darla Eggers, Auxiliary public relations chairwoman, silently see that our Auxiliary ads are ready throughout the year. Every time I go to remind Darla, I find that she and Cheryl have already handled whatever it is and the ads look great. Thank you both for making things go so smoothly. And, thank you to the *Angus Journal* for the ads and all the support and help you offer us.

Next, thank you to all the family members and Auxiliary women who handled ordering the Montana Silversmith buckles for the Richard L. Spader Memorial Belt Buckle and the Pat Grote Memorial Belt Buckle for the NJAS. The buckles looked great and were excellent awards for the first-place extemporaneous speaker in the senior division and the first-place extemporaneous speaker in the intermediate division, respectively.

And, lastly, thank you needs to be said to Cathy Watkins for chairing and supporting the Crystal Award Committee so expertly. These awards, as well as the Silver Pitcher awards chaired by Leslie (Morelock) Roye, seem to take care of themselves. We know that they don't, though, and I really want to thank Cathy and Leslie for making them happen for the Auxiliary and Angus juniors.

New beginnings

With the onset of the Missouri State Fair and the passing of summer, we begin to make plans for next year. At the fair, I am sure we will be sitting in camp chairs plotting ideas for the Auxiliary's annual brunch in Louisville, since the Missouri Angus Auxiliary will be hosting the event. Make sure you plan to be with us for the brunch. I am sure it will be as successful as the NJAS was under Missouri's careful planning. I look forward to seeing each of you at Louisville.

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