



Auxiliary Notes

► by *Shally Rogen, American Angus Auxiliary*

A blessed life

I love the month of May! The flowers are blooming, my favorite college student comes home for the summer, it's Mother's Day (I believe this should be a monthlong holiday!), and the entries for the All-American Certified Angus Beef® Cook-Off and Chef's Challenge are due May 15. Oh, and one more thing, May is Beef Month!

Community of moms

I'm not sure how it is at your house on Mother's Day, but the men in my life usually get me flowers, make me dinner, and, if possible, we usually try to go fishing. I'm spoiled and I like it! During this Mother's Day, I'm reminded of how lucky I am and what a gift I see every day through my boys. We are especially blessed to raise our children on a farm. They, like your children, learn an unlimited number of life lessons and values before others do. Happy Mother's Day to all of our Angus moms!

Moms within the Angus Association are often being "show mom," "heifer mom" and "barn mom." I mostly respond to "Hey, Mom!" but I will respond to all of the above, and I will respond to any child who says it! Years ago someone said, "It takes a village to raise a child." In my opinion, this still holds true today. It takes a village of moms to raise a child. I see the Auxiliary as the village and how we, as a group of women, embrace the juniors and encourage and nurture their journey through scholarships and awards.

That's probably the reason why I love going to the different contests at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). I want to support those juniors I have known since



they were 9 years old. I can't wait to hear their extemporaneous speech or to see what crazy skit they have prepared for the Cook-Off. Sometimes, just your presence or a smile is all that it takes to give them the confidence to make it through that contest. So, if you're at the NJAS, come and check us out at our mid-year meeting and social! The Auxiliary village is always looking for some more nurturers of our Angus youth.

Cooking contests

In addition to Mother's Day, the month of May means it's time to start getting your entries in for the American Angus Auxiliary's 33rd Annual *Certified Angus Beef* (CAB®) Cook-Off. Last year 38 teams participated. The Cook-Off is definitely a favorite among juniors and parents who attend the NJAS. The imagination and talent that our juniors show during this contest is very impressive.

If you're attending the NJAS but not busy

that day and want to help, we can always use volunteers. The event is educational, competitive and fun! The Cook-Off is an excellent way to educate and entertain non-participants, while promoting the ultimate end product — the *Certified Angus Beef* brand. Entries are due May 15 and can be completed through our website at

www.angusauxiliary.com.

If you'd like to display your own imagination, sign up for the Chef's Challenge. There are two age divisions — adults 21 and over, and NJAA members aged 18-21. We only accept 10 entries in this contest. Contestants are guaranteed to have a great time. It's always fun to see how the contestants use the mystery ingredient in their recipes! (For more information on the Chef's Challenge, check out the article "*Iron Chef, Angus Style*" in the September 2015 issue of the *Angus Journal* at www.angusjournal.com/ArticlePDF/NJAS-Chef-Challenge.pdf.)

Certificates and scholarships

I would like to encourage all juniors involved in Angus activities this spring and summer to apply for the Certificate of Achievement Award given by the Auxiliary for outstanding achievements at national, state and district levels. These certificates will be beneficial when applying for the Bronze, Silver and Gold awards through the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA), as well as when applying for Auxiliary and Angus Foundation scholarships. The application is available on our website and is due Sept. 30.

Happy Mother's Day to all the women in our Angus family!

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