

60-year commitment to Angus youth

As we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the American Angus Auxiliary, we also celebrate the many programs for Angus juniors. That commitment is never more evident than the Auxiliary's participation in award and scholarship presentations during the annual National Junior Angus Show (NJAS).

Encouragement

The members of the American Angus Auxiliary work tirelessly to uphold our mission, and the encouragement and recognition of junior Angus members takes top priority in that mission. Four years before the Junior Activities Department of the American Angus Association was formed, and 28 years prior to the official beginning of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) in 1980, the Auxiliary began its mission of recognizing the achievements of Angus youth.

Our oldest continuous program, the prestigious Silver Pitcher award presentation, started in 1953 at the Chicago International Stock Show. A silver pitcher was presented to honor a young lady excelling in showring achievements. The award presentation was moved to the North American International Livestock Exposition in 1975 and 1976 before finding its current home at the NJAS. In 1993, the recognition expanded to include young men.

Rewards

In 1956, the scholarship program was established with a \$100 donation. The Auxiliary awarded its first scholarship of \$300 in 1957. In the early years, the scholarship

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program was only for girls; the boys division was added in 1970. Today's practice of awarding scholarships to five girls and five boys began in 1985.

In 1967, the Auxiliary was asked by the Association to help select a National Angus Queen. The first-place scholarship winner was crowned. The name was changed to Miss American Angus in 1973. 1980 began the tradition of holding a contest with five top girl scholarship applicants selected to compete.

The Auxiliary presented an engraved silver bowl to the first-place National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest winner during the inaugural contest in 1967. In 1969, the Auxiliary began presenting bowls to the top five finishers. That practice continues today.

The Auxiliary continued its mission of recognizing junior Angus accomplishments and introduced the Crystal Award presentation in 1999, honoring one boy and one girl who excel in educational contest participation at the NJAS.

Participation

The popular All-American *Certified Angus Beef*[®] Cook-Off contest began in 1983 and has grown to be one of the largest non-showring competitions at the NJAS.



► Items pictured and available from the Angus Gift Barn are the Rattey sculpture, The Next Generation; and, new for summer 2012, a stylish cooler tote bag; a hot/cold tumbler with lid and straw; a classic black and cream mug; and a versatile glass jar. Visit the Gift Barn online at *www.angusauxiliary.com* or shop during the National Junior Angus show in Louisville, Ky.

Auxiliary schedule at NJAS Tuesday, July 17

Tuesday, July 17

1 p.m. — American Angus Auxiliarysponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® Cook-Off and Chef's Challenge Contest

Wednesday, July 18

- 3:30 p.m. Auxiliary social and midyear meeting
- 4:30 p.m. Rounding up Scholarship \$ — workshop and information for juniors and parents on preparing for and completing the Auxiliary scholarship application
- 5 p.m. Wearing the Crown (for girls and parents) — a look inside the Miss American Angus contest

Friday, July 20

6:30 p.m.— (during NJAA awards program) Presentation of Auxiliary scholarships; announcement of 2012 Miss American Angus finalists; awarding of Auxiliary's Black Kettle, Cook-Off, Crystal, Grote and Spader awards

Saturday, July 21

- Presentation of silver bowls to top five showmanship winners and Silver Pitcher winners announcement and presentation
- Angus Gift Barn open Tuesday through Saturday

The Auxiliary also has a recognition program for juniors that excel in showring, leadership and educational contests on district, state or national levels; the Certificate of Achievement application is open to all NJAA members. The Auxiliary is also responsible for several other memorial awards presented at the NJAS, including the Cook-Off's Black Kettle and Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) awards, as well as the Grote and Spader awards in the extemporaneous speaking contest.

While at the NJAS in Louisville, Ky., July 15-21, be sure to check out the items for sale in the Angus Gift Barn, look for the Auxiliary's presentation of awards and scholarships or enjoy an afternoon watching the Cook-Off. The Auxiliary will also host its summer social and meeting, as well as a special scholarship and Miss American Angus workshop for juniors and parents on Wednesday, July 18.

To find out more about the Auxiliary and its junior recognition programs visit *www.angusauxilary.com*.

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