

Cherished tradition

"Without tradition, art is a flock of sheep without a shepherd. Without innovation, it is a corpse." - Winston Churchill

I can think of no better way to describe the American Angus Auxiliary than this quote. We are steeped in tradition. Many women have come before me and have made the Auxiliary what it is today. It is our job to constantly seek ways to expand upon our mission.

History

When I think of the traditions that the Auxiliary is known for, I think of the All-American Certified Angus Beef® Cook-Off. I think of Miss American Angus and Silver Pitcher winners. I think of the scholarship program and Janet Castle Crystal Award winners. There are many traditions within

2014 American Angus Auxiliary Officers

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the American Angus Auxiliary that we cherish.

The Tradition Continues Heifer program is one that is very special to this group. The program has a long history within this organization and allows us to provide so many opportunities to Angus youth. The American Angus Auxiliary first created the scholarship program in 1955 to provide recognition and an award to an outstanding girl. The first heifer given to improve the scholarship fund was in 1958. P.L. Benshoof of Treasure Acres Farm in Blairsburg, Iowa, donated the heifer, which was auctioned during The All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity at Lexington, Ky. The Auxiliary Futurity Heifer became a tradition that lasted until 1996.

Revival

After an absence of several years, the heifer program was brought back to life in 2011 through the generous donation of a heifer from Jim and Ardyce O'Neill of O'Neill Angus Farm, Logan, Iowa. The heifer sold to Greg Buie of Copan, Okla. In 2012, Gardiner

Angus Ranch of Ashland, Kan., donated the heifer that was purchased by French River Cattle Co. of Ont., Canada. Last year, Tom McGinnis of Heritage Farm, Shelbyville, Ky., purchased EXAR Rita 5681. This bred heifer was generously donated by Express Ranches, Yukon, Okla.

This program is now appropriately dubbed "The Tradition Continues Heifer." Through generous donations of outstanding heifers, the Auxiliary is able to continue its rich tradition of awarding scholarships and awards to deserving Angus youth. We are honored to work with Angus breeders who share our passion for recognizing excellence and achievements in the future of this breed.

Anticipation

We are very much looking forward to this year's auction. Our Tradition Continues Heifer will be auctioned Sunday, June 22, during The All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity luncheon banquet in Louisville, Ky. Absentee and phone bidding will be available. Contact Cortney Holshouser, American Angus Auxiliary president, at kncholshouser@aol.com or call 919-796-2346 for more information.

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2013 Auxiliary Scholarship winners



► The Tradition Continues Heifer helps the Auxiliary provide scholarships for NJAA members. The Auxiliary awarded five scholarships to junior girls and five scholarships to junior boys at the 2013 NJAS. A total of \$13,000 was awarded.