



Auxiliary Notes

► by *Lynne Hinrichsen, American Angus Auxiliary*

Leading the way to payday

Hard work pays off. It is the mantra in our household, as it is for many families involved in the junior Angus program. Many families believe in working hard and playing hard. It takes a lot of sacrifice to pull things together for the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), but the rewards are worth it. Of course, the experiences and lifelong friends made during this exciting week are key components for the juniors. However, the joy in winning a contest or attaining a goal adds to the magical aspects of this time.

Partners

In July, many parents, family members and friends gathered to see their juniors' efforts rewarded at the NJAS in Tulsa, Okla. The NJAS and the American Angus Auxiliary are true partners in honoring hard work. Numerous juniors attending the show had dedicated months to preparing cattle for the show and themselves for the contests. The juniors' perseverance was rewarded in the showing and during the awards ceremony by the American Angus Association and the American Angus Auxiliary.

Many contest awards are sponsored by the Auxiliary. These awards are made possible by the efforts of the Auxiliary members through various fundraising projects conducted throughout the year. The support of the Association through the Auxiliary also allows us to continue serving the juniors in all of their endeavors. The Auxiliary is proud to offer awards and scholarships to the many deserving juniors as a testament to their hard work and commitment to the Angus breed.

The following recap of the awards

sponsored through the Auxiliary is just a portion of what we do on a yearly basis.

Midyear meeting and social

In true form, the Auxiliary combined business with fun by hosting its social and midyear meeting during the NJAS. More than 90 Auxiliary members and friends joined in our Angus activity, "Painting with Cow Pals," and meeting. The Hospitality and Programs Committee, led by Chairperson Michelle Rieff, hosted the ladies in a painting party that featured recreating a pasture scene. The ladies had the opportunity to relax, laugh and get creative during the session.

The participants and social attendees enjoyed refreshments and the chance to win prizes in our "Chinese auction" before our midyear meeting. During the meeting, normal business was conducted, including regional director and committee reports, minutes of the last meeting and the new fundraising project. There was a drawing for a \$100 travel voucher to the next Women Connected Conference scheduled for the spring of 2016.

Scholarships

The Auxiliary scholarship program is a time-honored program that assists juniors in their pursuit of higher education. Ten well-deserving applicants were awarded \$14,700 in scholarships this year.

Winners in the boys' division included:

- 1st — Cody Boden, Clearbrook, Va.;
- 2nd — Isaac McFarland, Keithville, La.;
- 3rd — Lawson Rowlett, Hurricane Mills, Tenn.;
- 4th — Jacob Hinshaw, Secor, Ill.; and
- 5th — Tyler Steele, Anita, Iowa.

Winners in the girls division were:

- 1st — Jera Pipkin, Republic, Mo.;

2nd — Claudia Hissong, Greencastle, Pa.;

3rd — Jordyn Wagner, Billings, Mont.;

4th — Allison Hawthorne, Westby, Wis.; and

5th — Ashley Cox, Eagle Point, Ore.

The 2016 Miss American Angus candidates were also announced and will compete in November during the National Angus Convention & Trade Show in Overland Park, Kan. The eligible candidates are Jera Pipkin; Claudia Hissong; Jordyn Wagner; Katelyn Holmes, Benton, Iowa; and Cassandra Garcia, Renton, Wash.

Cook-Off

Combining education and creativity is the goal of the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Cook-Off run by the Beef Education Committee. Under the leadership of Anne Patton Schubert and Anne Lampe, the committee works with Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) to help promote the product through recipes and entertaining skits. In addition, eligible adults can compete in the Chef's Challenge contest.

The coveted Black Kettle Award, given in honor of Paul St. Blanc, was awarded to the Kansas junior steak division team. Team members included Eva Hinrichsen, Westmoreland; Kady Figge, Onaga; Clay Pelton, Paradise; and Kelsey Theis, Leavenworth.

The Auxiliary also awards the winning intermediate steak division team with the Pat Grote Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) award. This scholarship for the LEAD conference is given in memory of past Auxiliary President Pat Grote, who was very involved with the Texas Cook-Off teams. The Kansas team was awarded this honor and included team members Cale Hinrichsen, Westmoreland; Grady Dickerson, Paradise; Sarah Pelton, Paradise; Alexandria Cozzitorto, Lawrence; and Caleb Flory, Baldwin City.

Other awards

The Janet Castle Crystal Award, also sponsored by the Auxiliary is given to the girl and boy accumulating the highest number of points in the educational contests (see more on page 216). These contests include

2015 American Angus Auxiliary Officers

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photography, posters, graphic design, extemporaneous and prepared public speaking, team sales, creative writing, quiz bowl and the cook-off. This year's winners were Keegan Cassady, Normal, Ill., and Will Pohlman, Prairie Grove, Ark.

Another special award goes to the winner of the intermediate extemporaneous speaking contest. A Harvey Rattey sculpture is given in honor of Pat Grote. This year's recipient was Cale Hinrichsen. The senior extemporaneous speaking winner is given a handcrafted belt buckle in honor of Richard "Dick" Spader, former executive vice president of the American Angus Association. The winner this year was Will Pohlman.

Showmanship

As the week wraps up, two final and prestigious awards are decided on the last day. The National Junior Angus Showmanship competition narrows the large group of showman to 15 finalists who compete for the top five positions. The Auxiliary presented silver bowls to the top five showmen. This year the honors went to Allison Manchester, Manhattan, Kan., first place; Will Harsh, Radnor, Ohio, second place; Kory Kovert, Crothersville, Ind., third place; Reid Shipman, Manhattan, Kan., fourth place; and Karisa Pfeiffer, Orlando, Okla., fifth place.

The very last award after the grand champion owned heifer is selected goes to the girl and boy who accumulated the most points in the showing. The Silver Pitcher Awards were earned by Sydney Schnoor, Chowchilla, Calif., and Ryan Callahan, Edmond, Okla.

Payoff

What an amazing and exciting week for everyone involved in the NJAS! The Auxiliary is honored to be sponsors of these programs and awards for so many well-deserving juniors. Juniors, we are proud of all your accomplishments and being able to help you attain your goals. Your hard work has paid off.

Lead on, juniors!

Sydney Hinrichsen

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PHOTOS BY CARRIE HEITMAN

