

An extraordinary gift

Like Christmas, the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) is a week that I always look forward to. It's a time when I get to see firsthand how juniors across the country have prepared for contests, look at a barn full of exceptional Angus cattle and, of course, catch up with my Angus family. A big thank you to Nebraska and South Dakota for hosting "Stampede the Sandhills!" Not everyone was able to leave with banners and awards, but many more left with new friendships, lasting memories and an increased passion for the Angus breed.

Auxiliary awards at NJAS

The annual Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Cook-Off at the NJAS celebrated its 33rd anniversary. The contest had a wonderful turnout with 45 teams consisting of 227 participants and six Chef's Challenge entries. Thank you to our beef education co-chairs Anne Patton Schubert and Anne Lampe, along with all of our sponsors and judges for making the 33rd Cook-Off a success!

Congratulations to the Black Kettle winners from Kansas! The team, competing in the intermediate steak category, included members Alexandria Cozzitorto, Lawrence; Grady Dickerson, Paradise; Kady Figge, Onaga; Eva Hinrichsen, Westmoreland; Sarah Pelton, Paradise; and Cale Hinrichsen, Westmoreland.

In memory of Pat Grote, past Auxiliary president, the Auxiliary presents a Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) scholarship, which pays the conference registration fees for the team that wins the

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CAB Cook-Off in the intermediate steak division. Congratulations to the same Kansas team that includes Alexandria Cozzitorto,

Grady Dickerson, Kady Figge, Eva Hinrichsen, Sarah Pelton and Cale Hinrichsen.

Harvey Rattey pewter sculptures are awarded and presented by the Auxiliary to the winners of the intermediate division

of the extemporaneous speaking contest. Mardee Sadowsky, Eagleville, Mo., and Cale Hinrichsen, Westmoreland, Kan., were presented the intermediate division awards in honor of Pat Grote. An artisan belt buckle is awarded to the senior division winner in honor of Richard "Dick" Spader. Cooper Sadowsky, Eagleville, Mo., received the award this year.

The next prestigious award presented at the NJAS is the Janet Castle Crystal award. Points are earned for placing and participation in the following contests: photography, graphic design, extemporaneous and public speaking, team sales, creative writing, quiz bowl, team marketing, career development, posters and the Cook-Off. Two awards are presented, one to the high-point boy and one to the high-point girl. Congratulations to Cooper Sadowsky and Christopher Kahlenbeck, Union, Mo.

The Silver Pitcher award recognizes outstanding achievements in the showring by one boy and one girl. Congratulations to Trey Conley, Clarksdale, Mo., and Cheyenne Jones, Franklinton, La. The Auxiliary was excited to present silver Revere bowls to the top five showmanship winners. The competition was stiff and all 51 participants did an outstanding job. Congratulations to Courtney Younge, Ventura, Iowa, for placing first and receiving the Dean Hurlbut Award. Second place went to Macy Perry, Prather, Calif.; third place went to John Knight, Montpelier Station, Va.; fourth place to Braden Henricks, Anadarko, Okla.; and fifth place to Chase Anderson, Chrisman, Ill.

The Auxiliary presented \$15,500 in scholarships during the awards ceremony at the NJAS. Winners in the boys' division



include C.J. Stevenson, Hobson, Mont., first; Kollin Johnson, Quincy, Mich., second; Wesly Johnson, Pipestone, Minn., third; Benjamin Marsh, Union, Ill., fourth, and Dawson Dal Porto, Brentwood, Calif., fifth.

Winners in the girls' division included Keegan Cassady, Bloomington, Ill., first; Madison Styles, Brentford, S.D., second; LeAnn Harward, Richfield, N.C., third; Morgan Fruge, Jennings, La., fourth; and Hannah Steph, Tatum, Texas, fifth. The following girls will compete this fall in Indianapolis, Ind., during the annual meeting activities for the title of 2017 Miss American Angus: Keegan Cassady; Hannah Steph; Reba Colin, Butler, Mo.; Hayley DeHaan, McMinnville, Ore.; and Sara Hatlewick, Jamestown, N.D.

Mid-year meeting

More than 65 women attended "Color Me Angus," an Auxiliary adult coloring and social event. It was a big hit followed by a S'mores bar, which everyone loved. The event was organized by Michelle Rieff, Cortney Holshouser and Christy Perdue. A big thank you to all who supported our Chinese auction this year; we raised \$1,006 to support our Angus youth activities.

The business meeting included 75 members in attendance receiving reports from our regional directors and committee





chairs. As a reminder, the Nominating Committee needs nominations for regional directors for districts 1, 2 and 3, and the secretary-treasurer position. Membership will cast a vote and mail the ballot for their regional director (ballot will be included in the fall Post) and the secretary-treasurer office will be voted on at the annual meeting in Indianapolis.

New business on the agenda included discussion of bylaw revisions to be voted on at the annual meeting, the new Auxiliary Mentor Program, the Full Circle Online Auction, and an update on Baby Black. The 1960s book commissioned by the American Angus Auxiliary is in the works to be published next year in honor of the 65th anniversary of the Auxiliary. Plans will be finalized later this year.

The Auxiliary annual meeting will be hosted in conjunction with the American Angus Association venue in Indianapolis, Ind. While registering for this event, be sure to attend the annual meeting and the Auxiliary Breakfast. The full text of the mid-year meeting minutes can be found at www.americanangusauxiliary.com.

Full Circle Online Auction

Be sure to set your calendar this month for the Full Circle Online Auction hosted by www.AngusLive.com Sept. 28-29. This is the

Auxiliary's first national Angus consignment sale and the only fundraising event of the year. The Full Circle Online Auction is an innovative, web-based consignment market that offers Angus breeders and families the opportunity to both sell and buy while making a substantial contribution to help ensure the sustainability of the Auxiliary's ongoing support of Angus youth. There are 25 consignments from across the country, so please take advantage of these offerings and bid. A list of all of the consignments can be seen at www.angusauxiliary.com/ FullCircleOnlineAuction.com.

What a gift

Watching juniors from the beginning of their career to their last year competing is an amazing journey both for the junior and their parents. This is the last year that our family will exhibit at the NJAS; it's been a great experience. Just like Christmas, my Angus family is an extraordinary gift!

Enthusiastically,

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