

AUXILIARY NOTES

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Our nominating committee has also been working on nomination forms and a process for nominating members for the six new regional director positions. Anyone interested in being considered as a candidate for the position of secretary-treasurer or regional director should contact committee chair Mary Greiman at 641-923-2235 or tmkcg@ncn.net.

Rewards

The Auxiliary will award \$12,000 in scholarships this year to five male and five female winners during the awards program Friday evening at the NJAS. Michelle Rieff, Bentonville, Ark., scholarship chairperson, will award scholarships in the amounts of \$1,400 for first; \$1,250 for second; \$1,200 for third; \$1,100 for fourth and \$1,050 for fifth.

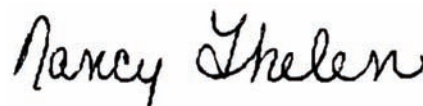
The Pat Grote Award will be presented to the top intermediate division winner in the extemporaneous speaking contest, and the Richard L. "Dick" Spader Award will be presented to the top senior extemporaneous speaker.

The Auxiliary also presents the Janet Castle Crystal Award to the overall high-point male and female based on placings in all of the educational events. Another highlight is presenting the Silver Pitcher awards to the male and female with the most outstanding achievement in the showing at the NJAS. The Auxiliary will also award silver Revere bowls to the top five contestants in the 2008 National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest.

The 2008 NJAS will mark the debut of a special horse, which has been donated to the

Auxiliary by Sheri Spader of Rosendale, Mo. SF Blue Sky McMaxill will be on display in Des Moines. He is sired by Blue Max Hancock and was foaled May 12, 2006. Watch future columns for more background information on this outstanding young gelding, and don't miss the opportunity to see him at the NJAS. Be a part of Angus history, and help support our Angus youth.

Happy Father's Day, congratulations to all of the 2008 graduates, and good luck to all the juniors in your 2008 show season. I look forward to seeing everyone in Des Moines.



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Miss American Angus travels

Greetings from the season-confused state of Michigan! There are two things my winter and early spring have consisted of: lots of snow and Angus cattle. Allow me to share the activities that have been keeping me occupied. When I returned from Louisville, Ky., the news of my being crowned Miss American Angus had already spread, and my peers and instructors were full of questions about what I won, how I won it, what I would be doing, etc.

Immediately upon my return, many newspapers and magazines, such as our local papers, the *Michigan Cattleman* magazine, the *Farmer's Advance and Exchange*, and our school paper, published my story. These articles were great since they not only promoted the breed and got the word "Angus" out into the public, but they also encouraged people to ask questions. This provided me the opportunity to share my Angus knowledge with them.

I was incredibly honored when the president of Southwestern Michigan College and the board of trustees asked that I attend their meeting to be recognized and speak a bit about what I will be doing throughout the year. It was very special, and thoughtful of them to recognize this accomplishment.

Next, I was off to Wooster, Ohio, to the Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) headquarters. There I attended the "Building Blocks for Success" seminar. The seminar was wonderful; not only did I learn so many things about CAB, I also met and was reunited with many fabulous people. Thank you to the entire CAB staff for making the seminar so educational and so enjoyable.

After an enjoyable Christmas with my family, I was on my way to Denver, Colo., for the week's Angus events at the National Western Stock Show (NWSS). I arrived in Denver and attended the Herdsman's Banquet. I also had a wonderful time at the Angus reception and the Foundation reception. Tuesday through Saturday were occupied with the shows. At the junior show on Tuesday, I believe I mastered the art of switching clothes in a matter of minutes, and my dad mastered being the "official crown and clothes holder." Thank you to all the regional managers, James

Fisher, Shelia Stannard, the junior Board and the queens who assisted me with the awards for all your help. Coming down with a cold made my eyes a bit blurry for the pictures, but all in all, the week was incredible.

My next event was the Michigan Beef Expo in Lansing. This was my first time in my blazer, crown and banner back in my home state. The highlight of the weekend was slapping the champion Angus as supreme champion for the open show, not a typical queen's duty. I am very proud to be from such a wonderful state with so many supportive people. Thank you to Nancy, Barb, Dr. Hawkins, Janel, Kris and everyone else for all your help and support. It is going to be a great year for Michigan!

Upcoming events for Miss American Angus include a visit to the state capital to be recognized on the senate floor and meet with senators and representatives. I will have the opportunity to hand out information and tasty CAB steak strips. Following that, I will be traveling into Chicago to do a radio and television interview with Orion Samuelson. That will be incredibly exciting and a great opportunity to share the excitement of the Angus breed. All of the shows are quickly coming and going, so that will also keep me busy.

I wish I could thank all of the people who have helped me, but that would take an *Angus Journal* of its own. So, right now I want to thank the entire CAB staff again, especially for their continued assistance with upcoming events. Also, thanks to the Miss American Angus Committee for all of their work. It is definitely appreciated.

Like many of you, my countdown to summer is in full swing. I cannot wait for the things that lie ahead this summer, including the traveling, the shows, the rekindled friendships, and most importantly, the memories that will be made. Best wishes for a beautiful spring. I will see you all soon at an upcoming Angus event!

— Danielle Foster, Niles, Mich., Miss American Angus

