



Auxiliary Notes

► by *Cortney Holshouser, American Angus Auxiliary*

What a week!

Another National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) is in the books and what a wonderful week it was! I, like everyone else, look forward to this week all year long. There is nothing that compares to the excitement and anticipation of the competition and fellowship among Angus friends. NJAS is especially important to me because it was here that I first saw the American Angus Auxiliary in action.

Cook-Off

From the Auxiliary-sponsored contests to the much anticipated announcement of Auxiliary scholarship recipients, it was clear to me 11 years ago that the American Angus Auxiliary was an integral part of the Angus family and the NJAS. This year in Indianapolis was no different as Auxiliary members were active in many aspects of the weeklong event.

The Auxiliary-sponsored, All-American Certified Angus Beef® (CAB®) Cook-Off took place for the 31st year during the NJAS in Indianapolis. As always, excitement was all around as 32 teams and three Chef's Challenge participants bustled around preparing scrumptious CAB dishes while they practiced finishing touches for their performances.

A huge thank you to Beef Education chairmen Anne Patton Schubert and Anne

Lampe for organizing this event every year. It's safe to say that it is a crowd favorite as everyone gathers to see what recipes are prepared and to see all of the knowledge that the Angus juniors can relay about our industry and product.

Taking home the top prize of the coveted Black Kettle Award was the Oklahoma junior Other Beef team consisting of Alyson Friesen, Sydney Johnson, Victoria Gerken, Charley Johnson and Madelyn Gerken.

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 throughout the years. Taking home that honor was the Kansas team

consisting of Cale Hinrichsen, Sarah Pelton, Megan Green, Chelsey Figge and Caleb Flory.

Other awards

A much sought-after award at NJAS is the Janet Castle Crystal Award. The Auxiliary sponsors the Crystal Award to promote and encourage participation in

educational events. Points are earned for placing and participation in the following contests: photography, poster, graphic design, extemporaneous and prepared public speaking, team sales, creative writing, quiz bowl and the Cook-Off. Two awards are presented, one to the high-point boy and one to the high-point girl. This year's winners were Chris Kahlenbeck of Union, Mo., and Brooke Harward of Richfield, N.C.

The Auxiliary awards Harvey Rattey pewter sculptures to the winners of the intermediate extemporaneous speaking contest in honor of Pat Grote. This year's winners were Corbin Cowles of Rockfield, Ky., and Cale Hinrichsen of Westmoreland, Kan. In the senior division of the extemporaneous speaking contest, the winner is awarded a hand-crafted artisan belt buckle in honor of Richard "Dick" Spader, former executive vice president of the



Auxiliary activities at NJAS



PHOTOS BY KASEY BROWN

► After the workshop and social, the American Angus Auxiliary midyear meeting was conducted.

► Miss American Angus Catherine Harward shares her experiences during the midyear meeting.

American Angus Association. This year's winner was Will Pohlman, Prairie Grove, Ark.

The Silver Pitcher Award is given to one boy and one girl for outstanding achievement in the showring. This prestigious award went to Ryan Callahan, Edmond, Okla., and Sydney Schnoor, Chowchilla, Calif.

One of my favorite contests is the National Junior Angus Showmanship competition. Much honor is associated with competing in this event. Taking top honors and receiving silver Revere bowls from the American Angus Auxiliary this year were Megan Collison, Rockwell City, Iowa (Megan also received the Dean Hurlbut Award for placing first); Calli Bayer, Ringle, Wis., second; Samuel Wallace, Stotts City, Mo., third; Amy Dierberger, Madera, Calif., fourth; and Ben Kiner, Mendota, Ill., fifth.

Auxiliary scholarships

Perhaps the most anticipated moment of the NJAS Awards Ceremony is the announcement of the American Angus Auxiliary Scholarship winners. This year we offered \$13,000 to 10 very deserving Angus youth. Winners in the boy's division included Kyle Livingston, Dover, Pa., first; Reed McCormick, Pleasantville, Iowa, second; Dylan Kennedy, Nashville, Mich., third; Randall Frye, Three Forks, Mont., fourth; and Carter Ward, Plattsburg, Mo., fifth. Winners in the girl's division included Maddi Butler, Vincennes, Ind., first; Michaela Clowser, Milford, Neb., second; Karisa Pfeiffer, Orlando, Okla., third; Destiny McCauley, Bowling Green, Fla., fourth; and Katie Friederichs, Walcott, Iowa, fifth.

Also revealed were the five girls who will

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compete for the title of 2015 Miss American Angus in Kansas City this November. The contestants are Maddi Butler; Michaela Clowser; Katie Friederichs; Catie Hope, Berryville, Va.; and Destiny McCauley. Congratulations to all the winners of the Auxiliary-sponsored awards.

Midyear meeting

On Wednesday, July 9, Auxiliary members and friends gathered for our midyear meeting, social and activity. We were thrilled to have more than 100 people attend our events on that day. Jena McRell and Carrie Heitman of the Angus Media Center conducted "Capture the Moment," a workshop that focused on photography and social media. Guests learned tips for taking better pictures with their smartphones and other cameras to capture their kids, cattle and other special subjects in the correct lighting, angle and "moment."

We also learned how to navigate social media and received tips for advocating for the agriculture industry and our own personal farms. Attendees were challenged to use these new tips throughout the week at NJAS and to post pictures on social media outlets using the hashtag #AngusMoment. One participant was chosen at the end of the week and received one of the Angus Gift Barn's new Angus afghans.

Attendees also enjoyed our old-fashioned popcorn bar and other refreshments while mingling and participating in our annual "Chinese Auction." After the workshop and social, the American Angus Auxiliary midyear meeting was conducted. Regional director reports, committee reports, minutes from last year's meeting, and a treasurer's report were provided. We also heard from the Beef Education chair, Publicity co-chair, Scholarship chair, Ways and Means chair, Certificate of Achievement co-chair, and Nominating Committee chair about their work and upcoming activities.

After the meeting, we had a drawing for a free lifetime membership and an Angus Gift Barn gift certificate. We thank Hospitality Chairman Michelle Rieff and the American Angus Association staff for all of their support in planning and carrying out this event. We would also like to thank everyone who visited and shopped the Angus Gift Barn in the trade show. We had a very successful week and are grateful for the support!

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PHOTO BY KASEY BROWN

▶ From left, Cortney Holshouser, Shally Rogen and Lynne Hinrichsen announce the winners in the Chinese Auction.



▶ A wide variety of items were available at the Auxiliary's Angus Gift Barn during the NJAS.

▶ **Right:** Attendees at the Auxiliary midyear meeting enjoyed an old-fashioned popcorn bar and other refreshments while mingling and participating in the annual Chinese auction.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CORTNEY HOLSHOUSE

▶ Posing at the Queen's Luncheon hosted during the NJAS are (from left) LeAnn Harward, 2009 Miss America Katie Stam Irk, Cara Smith and Miss American Angus Catherine Harward. Stam Irk was the first Miss America from Indiana in the history of the Miss America pageant.