

RAAA National Office

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Association Commentary

by Bob Hough, RAAA Executive Secretary

For any of you that missed it, we had a great convention in Dodge City, Kansas. It was very well attended and the enthusiasm for Red Angus was at an all-time high. Our hosts promised us a convention that would take us to the heart of the commercial cattle business and they delivered in spades. Some of the highlights were the tour of the Cargill Meats Solutions processing plant on Friday afternoon as well as a terrific tour on Saturday that included a 180,000 head feed yard. The host group also did a wonderful job of getting sponsors resulting in a great trade show and making this one of the least expensive conventions we have had in years. I can not tip my hat enough for the great job our hosts did in making this a memorable event.

Of course the primary reason for any RAAA Convention is to do the business of the Association. Steve Andras gave the findings of the committee formed to review the voting system, and their recommendation was to leave the voting system as it now stands. He also covered the new company, Genetic Performance Solutions (GPS) that RAAA has formed with the Brangus association. This topic was further covered during the breed improvement committee where Steve also took questions. In my "State of the Association" address I revealed that although registrations were flat for the year, the Association ended its fiscal year in a strong financial position (see below). I also covered and broke down the

\$150,000 commitment RAAA had made to start GPS.

At conventions we say goodbye to the board members who have reached the end of their terms. After working with someone for six years this is always a sad event, and I would like to give my heartfelt thanks to Kelli Brown and Terry Boyles for the wonderful job they did in service to the breed. It is also with excitement that I welcome Tom Woodward and Martin Morgan to the board.

One of the highlights of any convention is the awards banquet where we honor those who have truly excelled in the breed. I would like to extend my congratulations to Dennis and Clifford Halfmann, Larry and Jean Croissant, Frank Wedel, Connie Mushrush, Mary Otle, Meyer Natural Angus, Amber Leaf, and Stefan Schneider. I would especially like to thank Stefan who traveled from Brazil specifically to attend our convention and received the International Service Award. Employees Kay Hurley and Kevin LeMaster received plaques recognizing their ten years of service. Another unexpected highlight to the banquet was when Steve Andras asked my brother, Col. David K. Hough, USMC, to say a few words. He did a terrific job giving a motivational and patriotic speech, and I was very proud of him.

All in all, it was a great convention, and we look forward to seeing you next year in Cheyenne, Wyoming. ■

	REVENUE			EXPENSE			NET		
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	2005/06	ACTUAL	BUDGET	2005/06	ACTUAL	BUDGET	2005/06
Member Services	1,799,640	1,767,196	1,748,057	1,732,889	1,761,820	1,611,807	66,751	5,376	136,250
ARA Magazine	543,231	563,800	536,732	569,842	585,141	538,767	(26,611)	(21,341)	(2,035)
Juniors	79,955	53,905	46,668	60,828	53,865	53,407	19,127	40	(6,739)
Investments/Other Income							97,907	46,000	44,971
Overall	2,520,733	2,430,901	2,376,428	2,363,559	2,400,826	2,203,981	157,174	30,075	172,447