

Activities and Events  
Annual Report/Summary  
January 1, 2014 ~ December 31, 2014

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Committee Members: Tim Smith, Chairman; Susan Russell, Scott Cowger, Brian DeFreese, Dr. Calvin Drake, Blake Nelson, Cliff Orley, and Roger Finke. Staff contacts: Paulette Cochenour and Hannah Wine.

The committee members want to thank all the staff and particularly Hannah and Paulette for their organizational skills and strong work ethics to work through the details of our committee's many events. This committee strives to promote SimGenetics through the education of youth, the members, and the public in as many venues and as often as possible.

The 46th Annual Meeting held in Denver started our 2014 year of activities. We had a very successful series of events including the Chairman's Reception and Foundation Auction in addition to an exciting pen and hill show all held in conjunction with the 2014 National Western. Dr. Michael Dikeman, Eberspacher Enterprises, and Hounshell Farms were added to the Golden Book during this event as well.

The junior program saw continued growth and excitement this year with the largest AJSA National Classic in the history of our association. When you combine all regional classics plus the National classic held in Louisville KY we had over 700 young cattlemen participating from over 38 states with more than 850 head of Simmental, Simbrah, and Percentage cattle exhibited. The AJSA President will report on the highlights of these classics. Our hats are off to this junior board and to our ASA Youth Director, Hannah Wine for demonstrating outstanding leadership and organizational skills throughout the many youth events. The 2015 Classic events are on schedule; the Eastern Regional will be hosted by the New England Simmental Assn., South Central Regional will be hosted by the Missouri Simmental Assn, North Central Regional will be hosted by the Minnesota Simmental Assn, and the West Regional will be hosted by the Montana Simmental Assn, with the 2015 National Classic being hosted by the Texas Junior Simmental/Simbrah Assn and will be held in College Station, Texas.

Throughout the past year the committee worked with the AJSA board advising and reviewing rule change proposals, potential judges, and bylaw updates including the new requirements for AJSA Trustee Candidates. The Activities and Events committee recommended and the ASA board approved to increase the AJSA National Classic funding to \$10,000 for year 2015 and thereafter.

The committee closely reviewed, revised, and updated the Progress Through Performance judges list. A pre-conference call was made with the judge prior to each major PTP show explaining the PTP show guidelines and answering any questions concerning our science based data to assure progressive movement forward for SimGenetics. The committee, with board approval, changed the judge teleconference procedure to an online informational packet for judges with verification of the judge's viewing starting in the fall of 2014 to assure a more uniform and consistent method of communication concerning PTP shows. The committee continues to discuss and review the existing National Show Rotation schedule and guidelines. We were very pleased to receive positive feedback concerning the implementation of the registration stamping program utilized at the 2014 PTP Shows which was critical for speeding up the check in process. The committee is also encouraging the utilization of HD testing on animals exhibited in PTP shows to gather more data on genomic enhanced EPD's.

The ASA board is also proud to announce the new honor, PTP Herdsman of the Year Award, starting this year. The award will be presented to a member who supports and promotes the SimGenetics industry on

a personal and professional level while gently commanding the respect and upholds the honor and dignity of respectable cattleman. The recipient will be selected by their peers through a voting process and the presentation of the award will take place prior to the selection of the Champion Simmental Female at the National Show.

The Activities & Events Committee, with board approval, is also proud to announce the newly implemented “Active Member Awards”, to recognize the longevity, commitment, and durability of our active memberships. Awards will be presented to identified active members for twenty-five, fifty, and eventually one hundred years of active membership in the ASA. 418 awards were presented to twenty-five year active memberships in 2014.

The ASA Trustees were proud to approve the “Rotating Fall Board Meetings and Educational Seminars”. The 2014 Fall Board meeting and educational seminar took place in Bozeman, Montana and the open forum setting was a great success with over 100 members in attendance and an outstanding educational seminar lineup. A user friendly application process for state associations desiring to host future September Educational Sessions and Fall Board Meetings was put in place and we are very pleased with the interest and number of applications received. We are proud to announce that the 2015 Fall Meeting will be hosted by Pennsylvania Simmental Association and will held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania – everyone is invited to attend this fun filled and educational gathering.

The committee and ASA board continues to discuss ways of improving our events. In an attempt to increase membership interaction, attendance, and build friendships the board agreed to host a “Meet and Greet” in “The Yards” of the National Western Stock Show which was held on January 17, 2015.

We again thank the staff and membership for their assistance in continuing the growth and development of our great breeds of cattle. We invite everyone to attend the Chairman’s Reception and Foundation Auction held here at the Double Tree tomorrow night and join us in honoring the outgoing Chairman, Jim Butcher, and the outgoing Trustees as well as welcome our incoming Chairman, Robert Lanting, and newly elected Trustees. Some Fantastic items are being offered at the Foundation Auction and this will be a great time to show the enthusiasm, excitement, and support that continues to surround our great SimGenetics Programs.

This concludes the Activities and Events Report and I move that it be accepted into the Official Minutes of this Annual Meeting.

Tim Smith, Chairman  
January 18, 2015