**Wrapping Up "Brahmans Under the Big Top"**

*From the desk of the EVP: Paul Maulsby*

As the curtains close on the 2026 AJBA All American, **"Brahmans Under the Big Top,"** I want to extend my sincere congratulations and appreciation to every exhibitor, family, volunteer, sponsor, judge, and supporter who joined us in Bryan, Texas.

The All American is much more than a cattle show. It is a week where friendships are strengthened, leadership is developed, lifelong memories are made, and the next chapter of each junior member's **Brahman Story** is written. Every year we witness remarkable competition in both the show ring and leadership contests, but more importantly, we see young people growing into the future leaders of our breed and our industry.

As I reflect on this year's event, I see many successes that should be celebrated, along with opportunities where we can continue to improve. Organizing an event of this size is always a balancing act. While change can sometimes be met with skepticism, we must also be willing to adapt as our Association grows and the needs of our exhibitors evolve. That doesn't mean we leave tradition behind. On the contrary, we honor the traditions and the generations who built this event while thoughtfully implementing improvements that will strengthen the All American for years to come.

The continued growth of the AJBA is exciting, but it also presents new challenges. This year, those challenges were reflected in record participation and outstanding competition across every division.

When the dust settled beneath the Big Top, we welcomed:

- **366 Grey Female entries**
- **238 Red Female entries**
- **109 Grey Bull entries**
- **75 Red Bull entries**
- **77 Bred & Owned Grey Female entries**
- **42 Bred & Owned Red Female entries**
- **33 Bred & Owned Grey Bull entries**
- **20 Bred & Owned Red Bull entries**
- **46 F1 entries**

Combined, the 2026 All American featured **1,126 total entries** and welcomed **more than 300 exhibitors**, making it one of the largest and most successful All Americans in the history of our Association.

None of this would have been possible without the countless individuals who gave their time and talents to make the week a success. Thank you to our AJBA Board of Directors, Youth Activities Committee, volunteers, judges, sponsors, parents, advisors, and the dedicated ABBA staff whose commitment behind the scenes allowed this event to come together. Your efforts are deeply appreciated.

As we look ahead, our goal remains the same—to continue providing an event that celebrates the American Brahman breed while preparing young people for success beyond the show ring. We will continue listening, learning, and making thoughtful improvements that preserve the traditions of the All American while embracing opportunities to better serve our exhibitors and families.

To every junior who walked into the ring, competed in a contest, volunteered, made a new friend, or simply represented the Brahman breed with pride—thank you. You are the future of this Association, and each of you continues to add your own chapter to the ever-growing Brahman Story.

Until we meet again next year, thank you for making the 2026 AJBA All American a tremendous success. Safe travels, and we look forward to seeing you down the road as we continue **Building the Brahman Story—together.**