

Successful AGM held in Bunbury, WA

The Association's 37th Annual General Meeting was held in Bunbury, WA on March 31.

The policy of convening the AGM in different areas of Australia is aimed at making the meeting more accessible to a wider number of members. This proved successful with a good attendance of WA members and Association Councilors.

Reports were delivered on each of Council's functional areas.

Highlights of the Association's performance in 2006 were outlined:

- ❖ Registrations increased by 22% to 4,437
 - Growth in all registers, including 93% increase in Black Simmentals and 62% in the Grading Up registers
- ❖ Active cows increased by 6% to 5,974
- ❖ Financial surplus \$40,334 (consolidated)
- ❖ Promotional expenditure approximately \$20,000

A highlight of the function was the presentation to Charles Cowcher of the World Simmental Fleckvieh Federation's Golden Book Award. This is only the second such award bestowed on an Australian Simmental breeder for outstanding contribution to the breed's development.

In presenting the award on behalf of WSFF President, Franz Sturzer, ASBA President, Bill Almond cited Charles' significant contribution as an ASBA Councilor for 13 years, his chairmanship of different Committees, as Treasurer and importantly as President.

During this period he had participated in many difficult issues facing the Association and had contributed to developing positive directions for the breed and the Association.

As a foundation member of the Association, Charles had played a significant role in the breed's development within WA and nationally. He represented the Association with distinction as a judge at many interstate shows and was always willing to provide advice to other members.

The award was enthusiastically endorsed by the WA membership and the presentation was endorsed by standing ovation.

Both Charles Cowcher (WA) and Peter Wenn (Vic) resigned from Council at this meeting and their service to Council received a strong vote of appreciation.

Two new Councilors were welcomed, Michael Introvigne (WA) and Mel Ryan (Vic).

After the AGM, Bill Almond (NSW) was re-elected President, Tom Baker (SA) was re-elected Senior Vice President and elected as Treasurer, while Michael Frankcombe (Tas) was re-elected Junior Vice President.

A Members Dinner was held after the AGM when 30 members enjoyed the opportunity to get to know each other and to share ideas for future breed development.



COUNCIL:

Front Row from left: Tom Baker, Bill Almond, Mike Frankcombe, Charles Cowcher (resigned Mar 31)

Back Row from left: Rob Laycock, Mike Introvigne (elected Mar 31), Alan Anderson, Garry Gillett, (not present Mel Ryan).



President, Bill Almond presents the WSFF Golden Book Award to Charles Cowcher.



President, Bill Almond presents a gift to Charles Cowcher. From left: Bill Almond, Beryl and Charles Cowcher and Peter Speers.



President, Bill Almond presents a bouquet to Beryl Cowcher in gratitude of her support during Charles Cowcher's 13 years on Council.



Marj & Alan Anderson chat with Audrey Weightman and Tom Baker



Chatting with the President: Graham and Althea Larke, Bill Almond (President) and Bob Treasure.



WA members congratulating Charles Cowcher on receiving the Golden Book Award. Loreen and Tony Kitchen, Charles and Beryl Cowcher, Kevin and Janice Hard.



John and Robyn Lees chatting with Fred Knight at the AGM.



Some of the WA members enjoying the Dinner



Garry Gillett, Rob Laycock and Mike Frankcombe