



ANGUS ANGLE

by Julie Mais, editor

Lessons Learned

The textbook setting is where I thrived. I like that school provided me a proverbial measuring stick and nearly instant feedback on my understanding of the material. It came fairly easy to me — learn the information, do some studying and pass the test.

From kindergarten through grad school, I did learn much that I use today in work and life. My understanding of sentence structure does help pay the bills, and I'm doing calculations in my head at the grocery store to keep in budget. But when times are good and when times are tough, I don't lean on those lessons from the classroom.

Our family farm is responsible for the daily drumbeat of lessons for handling life's twists and turns.

A few lessons

Patience — It takes perseverance, waiting 283 days to see if that mating is as good as you planned, and then slowly growing a herd in quality and quantity.

Connection — With family, peers and cattle. On a family farm, like with so many of our Angus breeders, you have to work hard to work together. Meeting others who share your passion is a blessing. When you

care for your cattle, they care for you.

Adaptability and resiliency — Being at the mercy of Mother Nature and the markets on a daily basis can take its toll. You make hay when the sun shines, and thank the Lord for rain when it's needed and given. It takes grit and resiliency to face the adversity in the life of a cattleman.

Continuous improvement — Take those lessons learned and apply them today. No two operations are the same, but we can learn from each other and apply what is uniquely helpful to better care for your herd and your family.

Lifelong learning

For more than a century, the *Angus Journal* has been a mainstay for the Angus breeder. This publication is here to serve you as a marketing tool, your connection to other breeders and the Association, and a way for you to hopefully learn a little something new each month.

In this issue Angus families share a few lessons they've learned while growing their operations. Our team brings you coverage of the 2023 Angus Convention, complete with honoring breeders and providing some helpful information from educational sessions.

As you flip through these pages, I hope you notice a fresh, yet familiar, look. As lifelong learners ourselves, the *Angus Journal* team has been developing this "design refresh" with you, our readers, top-of-mind. We strive to keep this publication leading the industry for you.

Benjamin Franklin once said, "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."

Angus breeders are savvy cattlemen who know a good investment. 

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