



ASSOCIATION

# Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights

## Winning doesn't happen overnight

We all know who they are. There are certain people of whom many others are jealous, people who seem to have it all. Perhaps you can predict that the same people are going to win any shows they enter. Maybe it seems like they are impossible to get around when it comes to a competition or running for an office. Maybe you are one of "those" people, the ones who seem to have it all and get it all with



**Brian Howell**

ease. Maybe you have been the one to consistently stand second behind the same person year after year. Or maybe people are jealous of you for always succeeding, and you don't realize it.

We tend to call these people the winners. However, one cannot define how much they have won by the number of banners hanging on the wall or trophies sitting on the shelf. They are winners if they have the right attitude and use their experiences to learn lessons that will help them in the future.

In many cases, people are banished or bad-mouthed because of their accomplishments. People who don't get as much recognition are often jealous of those who make winning look easy. However, most people don't see all of the steps of the journey to the winner's circle.

Do you remember the first time you did something you now enjoy doing regularly and successfully? Perhaps it was fitting an animal, walking an animal into the showring to flex your showmanship skills or your first cook-off skit. Maybe it was the first time you played in a basketball game, danced in a recital or acted on stage. Chances are your first performance wasn't the best you have ever done. You can probably look back now and laugh at how terrible you might have been. With practice and experience comes improvement. The longer one does something, the easier it gets with time; confidence builds and performance improves.

Someone in my family recently dug out a videotape of my older siblings' first time in the showring, back in the summer of 1985. The footage is quite humorous — it was obvious my family was in the rookie stages of showing and presenting cattle. Fitting jobs were rough; my sister and

brother needed a lot of assistance getting around the ring, and they consistently placed last.

Instead of throwing up their arms and accepting defeat, my family looked at the situation and tried to make it better. My sister, brother and I took advantage of the lessons the "winners" had to offer. My dad took the first step by helping us select and breed better animals. My brother spent a lot of time watching people fit and clip. I watched showmanship classes and learned how to present my animal. By the time I was in my last year of 4-H, my family had made considerable improvements in our ability to show cattle. Our improvements did not come overnight, but took many years of trial and error, of making mistakes and constantly learning about how to improve our project. To this day, we continue to learn and try to improve.

Although we have never been a major threat at the state or national level, my family took home several championships at the county level. We tried to remain humble and use our talents to improve the county program and help other kids. Some people seemed to respect our efforts and asked us for advice or became our friends. However, others bad-mouthed us. Maybe they were jealous, or maybe we hadn't been as gracious as we should have been. But it seems like every time someone walks out of the ring with a blue ribbon, someone who stood lower is not pleased and might say unfavorable things about who won.

I'll admit, there have been several occasions when I have been the jealous one. When I was down one day, my dad shared a quote he once heard. "A person who criticizes another says nothing about those being criticized, but says something about his own need to be critical." It made me realize that my bad-mouthing was doing nothing for the situation. Everyone at the show knew who won, and my complaining wasn't going to change the results. Being jealous was only holding me back from future success. Instead of being green with envy, I learned from my mistakes and tried to improve on my next

### NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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attempt. I later realized that by learning from my mistakes and constantly trying to improve, I was on the road to being successful.

It is often said success rarely happens overnight. Maybe there are some situations where a person does everything right on the first try. Congratulations to them. But in most cases it takes practice, patience, observation, learning, sharing, time and experience before people reach their ultimate goal. People won't fail if they learn from their mistakes and try to improve the next time. It is important to remember the journey we take on the road to success and winning. Likely, the people of whom we are jealous have already taken the same journey.

— **Brian Howell, Union City, Ind.**

### ▶ Georgia



▶ Georgia Junior Angus Ass'n board of directors are (seated, from left) **Katie Gazda**, Athens, reporter; **John Bramblett**, Jefferson, secretary-treasurer; **Brandon Walker**, Lexington, president; and **Alex Tolbert**, Nicholson, vice president. Directors are (standing, from left) **Kristy Ansley** and **Shelly Ansley**, both of Cornelia; **Jeremy Britt**, Loganville; **Seth Chitty** and **Whitney Chitty**, both of Moultrie; and **Laura Bramblett**, Jefferson.



▶ 2002 Georgia Angus royalty are (from left) **Kristy Ansley**, Cornelia, Georgia Angus queen; and **Laura Bramblett**, Jefferson, Georgia Angus princess.

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## Junior deadlines approaching fast

Many deadlines for upcoming junior shows and events are approaching rapidly.

### April 15

April 15 is the ownership and entry deadline for the Atlantic National Regional Preview Show, set for May 24-26 in Timonium, Md. For entries or more information, contact Bobbi McMullen at (717) 548-3282 or e-mail her at [bobbie@epix.net](mailto:bobbie@epix.net).

### May 1

- ▶ NJAA Honorary Angus Foundation nomination deadline. This honor goes to individuals who have shown extraordinary interest in and support of junior members and junior activities. Up to three people may be honored each year. Send nominations to the Junior Activities Department.
- ▶ Advisor of the Year nomination deadline. This award honors the dedication and contributions of those who advise junior Angus associations, and it may go to an individual or a couple. Any junior Angus association may nominate its advisors. Contact the Junior Activities Department.
- ▶ Ownership deadline for the Eastern Regional, Central Regional Preview and Northwest Regional Preview.

### May 10

- ▶ Entry deadline for the Auxiliary scholarship.

### May 15

- ▶ Entry deadline for the Eastern Regional, Central Regional Preview and Northwest Regional Preview. Entries must be postmarked on or before May 15. No exceptions.
- ▶ Angus Foundation scholarship application deadline. The Angus Foundation is offering college scholarships totaling \$20,000: two for \$2,500 and 15 for \$1,000. Call the Junior Activities Department for more information or for an application. Applications also are available at [www.njaa.info](http://www.njaa.info).
- ▶ Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB)/NJAA Scholarship application deadline. CAB and the NJAA offer a \$1,000 scholarship. Current junior members, or life or regular members who at one time

were NJAA members, are eligible to apply if they also are college sophomores, juniors or seniors majoring in animal science, meat science, food science, agricultural communications or a related field of study. Applications are available from the Junior Activities Department or at [www.njaa.info](http://www.njaa.info).

- ▶ National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) ownership deadline. To be eligible to show, animals must be transferred to the junior exhibitor on or before this date. Late transfers are not accepted. Entry deadline is June 1. No exceptions.

### June 1

Entry deadline for the NJAA/*Angus Journal* photo contest. See page 84 for more details.

## Junior entry packets to be mailed this month

All NJAA members between the ages of 9 and 21 should receive an entry packet in the mail soon for all NJAA summer shows and events.

The packet will contain rules and entry information for the Central Regional Preview Junior Angus Show, June 14-16 in Hutchinson, Kan.; the Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show, June 21-23 in Timonium, Md.; the Northwest Regional Preview Junior Angus Show, June 23-26 in Moses Lake, Wash.; the NJAS, July 8-13 in Milwaukee, Wis.; and the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference, Aug. 1-4 in Sacramento, Calif.

If you do not receive your entry packet by April 15, contact the Junior Activities Department.

## Angus Foundation Golf Tournament

If you enjoy spending time on the golf course and supporting the Angus Foundation, you can do both at the second annual Angus Foundation Golf Tournament. The event will take place Tuesday, July 9, during the NJAS in Milwaukee, Wis.

The location and schedule for the event are still tentative, so look for more details in upcoming issues of the *Angus Journal*.

The entry fee is \$100 per golfer, and several levels of sponsorship are available. Contact the Junior Activities Department or e-mail James Fisher at [jfisher@angus.org](mailto:jfisher@angus.org) for an entry form and more information.

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### ▶ Kansas



▶ The Kansas Angus Auxiliary awarded scholarships to college-age junior Angus members. Pictured are (from left) **Benjamin Winsor**, Grantville; **John McCurry**, Burrton; **Heather Hopper**, Leonardville, all receiving scholarships; and **Bonnie Benoit**, presenting the scholarships.



▶ **Emily McCurry**, Burrton, left, was crowned the 2002 Miss Kansas. Also pictured is **Libby Lister**, Topeka, 2001 Miss Kansas Angus.

### ▶ Ohio

▶ **Stephanie Mullett**, Coshocton, Ohio, was awarded the \$1,000 Curt Balthaser scholarship from the Ohio Cattlemen's Foundation. She is the daughter of Gene and Janel Mullett. Stephanie is majoring in animal science at Ohio State University. She is active in the Saddle and Sirlain Club and the Ohio Junior Angus Association.

### ▶ Texas

Steve Olson, Hereford, Texas, was the winner of a heifer raffled by the Texas Junior Angus Association to benefit the Texas junior fund. The raffle was in conjunction with the Fort Worth Stock Show, Friday, Jan. 25.

The heifer, Deer Creek DHD 0200, is a January 2000 daughter of DHD Traveler 6807. She will calve in March 2002 to the high carcass and maternal sire, B/R New Design 036.

Included in this package is a flush service provided by Deer Creek Ranch and DNA Genetics. They will also provide semen from the deceased sire SAF Focus of ER. Harding & Harding American Live Stock Insurance Co. has insured the heifer until her delivery to the new owner.



▶ **Mark Gleason**, Midlothian, Texas Junior Angus Ass'n president congratulates raffle heifer winner, **Steve Olson**, Hereford. Also shown is **Jaci Jagers**, Sulphur Bluff, Miss Texas Angus.



▶ **Jaci Jagers**, Sulphur Bluff, right, was named the 2002 Texas Angus queen. Also pictured is **Joanna Olson**, Hereford, 2001 Texas Angus queen.



▶ **Joshua Luetge**, Brenham, was named the rookie of the year.

### ▶ Wisconsin



▶ Members of the Wisconsin Junior Angus Ass'n board of directors are (seated, from left) **Dustin Henningfeld**, Burlington, president; **Sarah Robinson**, Wauzeka, vice president; **Amanda Downing**, Waukesha, secretary; and **Jaelyn Zimmerman**, Platteville, show chairperson. Directors are (standing, from left) **Emily Johnson**, Sun Prairie; **Dana May**, Mineral Point; **Keela Retallick**, Glen Haven; **Brady Quam**, Lodi; **Stephen Kohl**, Waterloo; **Kayla Downing**, Waukesha; and **Thomas Kegley**, Burlington.



▶ The Wisconsin Junior Angus Ass'n honored its advisors of the year. Pictured are (from left) co-winners **Kevin** and **Keri Retallick**, Glen Haven; and **Leslie** and **Rick Mindemann**, Sullivan.



▶ **Thomas Kegley**, Burlington, left, received the showcase heifer award. Also pictured is **Deanna Hartzell**, Shawano, breeder of the winning female.



▶ Juniors of the year are (from left) **Keela Retallick**, Glen Haven; **Dustin Henningfeld**, Burlington; **Jill Kozminski**, Dousman; and **Sarah Robinson**, Wauzeka.



▶ **Deanna Hartzell**, Shawano, was honored as showing the cow-calf of the year.

