

ASSOCIATION HIGHLIGHTS

Compiled by Julie Mais, editor

Check voting eligibility now

American Angus Association members wanting to participate in the Board of Directors election and other business this fall need to meet four eligibility requirements before 4:30 p.m. CDT April 10.

According to Association bylaws, only eligible voting members can nominate, be nominated, vote or be elected in the annual election of delegates. To participate in the electoral process and other business during the 137th Annual Convention of Delegates, a member must be considered an eligible voting member and must meet all of the following requirements by 4:30 p.m. CDT April 10:

1. Active regular or life membership (dues paid in full)
2. 18 years of age or older
3. Registered at least one animal or completed at least \$250 of business with the Association or Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI®) within the preceding 12 months from when the nomination period begins (from April 8, 2019, to April 10, 2020)

4. Be current with all financial obligations to the American Angus Association and all of its subsidiaries when the nominating period begins.

The fourth requirement is new this year and is the result of a bylaw amendment approved by delegates at the 136th Annual Convention of Delegates in Reno, Nev.

It is encouraged to submit all necessary requirements with sufficient time for completion prior to April 10. The Association will mail delegate nomination forms only to active regular and life members who qualify as eligible voting members prior to 4:30 p.m. CDT on April 10.

Contact the Association at 816-383-5100 with any questions, or reference the bylaws of the Association online at www.angus.org, referring to the applicable "Section 3.6: Determination of Eligible Voting Members" in "Article III: Convention of Delegates."

The 137th Annual Convention of Delegates will be Monday, Nov. 9, 2020, during the Angus Convention in Kansas City, Mo.

Online registration for the convention will begin July 1 at www.angusconvention.com.

Delegate nomination

Preparations are being made for the American Angus Association's 2020 Annual Convention of Delegates this November in Kansas City, Mo. Forms to nominate delegates to the annual meeting will be mailed to every active life and regular member of the Association who qualifies as an eligible voting

member prior to April 10, according to the Bylaws.

The nomination period is April 13-June 12. Each eligible voting member is allowed to nominate one eligible voting member who resides in the same state or district, including himself or herself. The candidate should be highly involved in the Angus business, willing to attend the meeting and able to represent Angus breeders.

Signed nomination forms must be received in the Association office by mail or online submission no later than 4:30 p.m. CDT on June 12, at which time every qualified nominee will be included on a state ballot. State ballots will be mailed to all eligible voting members in July to vote for the final slate of state delegates. When you receive the form, please return it promptly.

Hair shedding research EPD

The American Angus Association launched a research expected progeny difference (EPD) for hair shedding Feb. 5, 2020. The research EPD has been in development since 2011 and is now brought to fruition through the collaboration of the Association, Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI), Mississippi State University, North Carolina State University and the University of Missouri (MU). MU Ph.D. candidate and AGI 2019 summer intern, Harly Durbin, was instrumental in the development of this Angus research EPD.

Early summer shedding is an indicator for both heat tolerance and tolerance to fescue toxicosis, which

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could result in a genetic correlation between a dam's shedding score and her calf weaning weight.

Hair shedding is evaluated on a 1-5 visual appraisal scale, where 5 is a full winter coat, and 1 is completely slick. While there is some variability in shedding patterns between individuals, cattle tend to shed from front to back and top to bottom. Using Angus data, hair shedding has been found to have a moderate heritability of 0.42, falling between that of weaning weight and marbling.

Through the three different projects, 14,465 scores from 8,642 individual cattle have been collected, and more data is encouraged to be submitted to increase the accuracy of predictability of the EPD.

Hair shedding scores should be collected between mid-April and mid-June. Since regional climates exist, it is important to take those measurements when the amount of hair shed varies the most. It is important to note, age has a significant effect on hair shedding. For that reason, cattle must be at least a year of age before hair shedding scores are collected.

Visit www.angus.org for more information.

AngusLink and EarthClaims LLC service partnership

The American Angus Association and EarthClaims, LLC, have reached an agreement to provide bundled verification services. The bundled services include certification under the Global Animal Partnership's 5-Step Animal Welfare Program (G.A.P.) certification from EarthClaims with options for age and source, Angus-sired genetics, non-hormone treated cattle (NHTC) and NeverEver 3 (NE3) verification by AngusLinkSM, a USDA Process

Verified Program (PVP). By working together, the companies are able to streamline the enrollment and audit process while offering the programs at a reduced cost.

"AngusLink is growing rapidly as cattlemen look to capture the value of their Angus feeder cattle," said Mark McCully, Association CEO. "Now being able to combine G.A.P. certification allows these programs

to put more dollars in cattlemen's pockets."

EarthClaims is an industry leader in animal welfare third-party verification services and the exclusive provider of G.A.P. certification in North America.

Cobb to lead CAB production team

by Miranda Reiman, Certified Angus Beef LLC



Describing beef supply and demand as a bit of a chess match, Bruce Cobb says he's learned the game through various roles in the past three decades.

The Texas native took on a new vantage point March 1, as executive vice president of production for Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB).

"I've been able to participate on both sides of the industry, demand development and then supply and I enjoy figuring out: How can we satisfy the consumer and the end user by what

we're doing on the production side?" he says. "Blending those two pieces is where the good stuff is."

Since 2005, Cobb has been at the helm of Consolidated Beef Producers, the country's largest cattle marketing cooperative. He and his team traded 700,000 head of cattle annually across the West and Midwest.

As executive vice president, Cobb will oversee the brand's supply development, producer communications and packing divisions, while serving as the voice of the producer to the greater company.

Premiums for the brand are built at the packing level, so cattlemen will also benefit from Cobb's ability to help packers further identify sales opportunities.

"It was important to us that we found somebody so grounded in the production side that they had credibility with the cattlemen we serve, but also that they were able to see beyond the ranch gate to the way the whole beef community is interconnected," CAB President John Stika says. "That is what's really exciting about Bruce and the experience he brings."

Cobb brings experience from the San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo to Daymon Worldwide to the U.S. Meat Export Federation and Texas Beef Council.

The son of West Texas cotton farmers, agriculture and FFA shaped Cobb early on. He earned his undergraduate degree in agricultural communications from Texas Tech University. His master's in international agriculture marketing at Texas A&M followed.

"It really comes down to the desire to continue to make a difference in the world of producers, whether that's cow-calf, feeders or stockers," Cobb says. "This is an opportunity to take that to the next level and really impact the well-being of producers from the production but also the demand side."

Cobb and wife, Margie, have three children and have spent their fair share of time driving to events and cheering them on from the bleachers. They've been very active in their local Canyon, Texas, community and the greater ag community.

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CURRENT ASSOCIATION FEES

Following are the correct fees for various American Angus Association services. Be sure to send the correct amount of money with the work being requested, as incorrect payments are the main cause of delays.

REGISTRATIONS

- Applications for animals less than 4 months of age\$7
- Applications for animals 4-10 months of age \$9
- Applications for animals 10-12 months of age\$14
- Applications for animals more than 12 months of age \$27

TRANSFERS

- Applications received less than 30 days from sale date \$5
- Applications received 30-60 days from sale date.....\$7
- Applications received more than 60 days from sale date\$12

MISCELLANEOUS

- Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) fee (per first weight submitted) \$3
- Artificial insemination (AI) service certificate.....\$10
- Regular annual membership\$80
- Regular annual membership with Angus Journal subscription..... \$130
- Lifetime membership (optional to pay in three \$500/year installments).....\$1,500
- Junior annual membership (less than 21 years of age)..... \$20
- Embryo-transfer (ET) calf..... regular registration fee plus \$10
- Cell-clone transplant calf.....regular registration fee plus \$50

Rules of the American Angus Association are included in the Breeder's Reference Guide. Free copies are available from the Association. An online version is available through the "Rules and Forms" link at www.angus.org.

BREEDER'S REFERENCE

Symbols are used with a registration number to denote important information about an animal.

SYMBOL MEANING

- # Pathfinder cow or Pathfinder sire
- + Embryo transfer calf
- ^ Cell clone
- % Split-ET
- @ Clone-ET
- * Parentage qualified to both parents and the mating

The American Angus Association currently recognizes the following genetic conditions:

CODE MEANING

- AM Arthrogryposis multiplex
- CA Contractural arachnodactyly
- D2 PRKG2 gene mutation for dwarfism
- DD Developmental duplication
- DM Double muscling
- DW Dwarfism
- HG Horn gene
- HI Heterochromia irides
- M1 nt821 mutation for double muscling
- NH Neuropathic hydrocephalus
- OH Oculocutaneous hypopigmentation
- OS Osteopetrosis
- RD Red gene
- SN Syndactyly
- WT Wild type color gene

The following single-letter descriptors appearing after a genetic condition code shall have the following meaning:

- P - refers to a "potential" carrier based on an ancestor known to carry that specific mutation.
- F - refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be "free" of that specific mutation.
- C - refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a "carrier" of that specific mutation.
- A - refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a carrier of two copies of that specific mutation. It may or may not exhibit the phenotype associated with that genetic condition.

The following letter designations describe cases in which there is more than one genetic condition present:

- XF - Free of more than one genetic condition.
- XC - Carrier of more than one genetic condition.
- XA - Affected of more than one genetic condition.
- RTF - Recessive trait free (produced 35 or more calves from daughters without a genetic defect).

Focus on the Future

The 2020 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) will take place July 5-11 in Harrisburg, Pa.

More than 1,200 head of cattle are expected to compete in the show ring at this year's NJAS, themed "Focus on the Future".

The classes offered will provide opportunities for juniors to exhibit their owned heifers, bred-and-owned (B&O) heifers, cow-calf pairs, steers, and B&O bulls.

Foundation scholarships

The Angus Foundation will award undergraduate and graduate scholarships this year. Scholarship recipients will be recognized at the 2020 NJAS in Harrisburg, Pa.

Eligibility requirements for the general Angus Foundation scholarships remain the same. Angus youth who are graduating from high school or in college currently may also be eligible for other Angus-related scholarships that are permanently endowed and managed by the Angus Foundation.

The Foundation will make available graduate student scholarships to young men and women actively involved in the Angus breed who are pursuing advanced degrees.

Applicants must have at one time been an NJAA member and currently be a junior, regular or life member of the Association. Strong preference and priority will be given to applicants pursuing advanced degrees related closely to the beef industry.

Angus Foundation undergraduate and graduate student scholarship applications are available at www.angusfoundation.org.

The application deadline is May 1. For more information, contact the Angus Foundation at 816-383-5100.

Herds of the century

The Century Award recognizes members who have been in continuous production of registered Angus cattle for 100 years or more.

Award recipients are recognized with an engraved plaque at the Association's Annual Awards Banquet, notice in the *Angus Journal*, and a list maintained on the Association's website.

Applications are available online at www.angus.org/Customer/AwardsAndRecognitions.aspx or by contacting the Events and Education Department. This year's awards will be presented during the Awards

Recognition Breakfast in Kansas City, Mo., during the 2020 Angus Convention.

Auxiliary scholarships

The American Angus Auxiliary annually awards scholarships to graduating high school seniors. The postmark deadline for the national contest is May 1.

Junior Angus members must first be chosen as a state auxiliary scholarship winner before advancing to the national competition.

Applications and state Angus auxiliary scholarship contacts are available at www.angusauxiliary.com.

Affiliate scholarship

The Angus Foundation will provide \$1,000 scholarships to three youth who use Angus genetics in their seedstock or commercial operations. Awards will be distributed this July.

The applicant or applicant's parents/guardians must have transferred or been transferred an Angus registration paper in the last 36 months.

Full details can be found at www.angusfoundation.org. The Allied Angus Breeders Scholarship application is available online and is due May 1.

Longevity awards

The American Angus Association recognized employees for their years of service during its Christmas party and Longevity Awards Banquet Dec. 20, in Saint Joseph, Mo.

5 years of service



Josh Comminellis
video production
director



Stason Gregory
senior systems
engineer



Casey Jentz
regional manager



Ashley Petty
customer service
representative

15 years of service



Kenny Miller
CFO



Gayla Fuston
customer service
representative



Della Horstman
processing

25 years of service



Cheyenne Pittman
director of first
impressions



Jeff Mafi
regional manager



Dan Moser
Angus Genetics
Inc. president



Alex Tolbert
regional manager



Janice Blair
software engineer



Jerry Cassidy
member services
director



Brenda Weigart
member services
operation
coordinator



Gina Weigart
processing

10 years of service



Mike Flannery
computer technician



Sharon Driggers
computer operator

30 years of service



Lea Ann Maudlin
photo coordinator

35 years of service



Lou Ann Adams
assistant director
information systems

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Feeding Quality Forum

The *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Feeding Quality Forum (FQF) is set for Aug. 25-26 in Fort Collins, Colo. The two-day event brings together cattle feeders and their cow-calf suppliers with topics that matter to both segments.

“We really try to plan an agenda that’s more than just an industry update. It’s thought-provoking and forward-looking,” says Kara Lee, CAB production brand manager. “The people who come are ready to learn and lead.”

Sessions will range from a global commodity outlook to innovations in health and trends in the beef business.

The schedule allows for networking time, including the evening banquet to celebrate the 2020 FQF Industry Achievement Award honoree.

Visit www.feedingqualityforum.com for more information.

Transfer assistance

If you know of a junior member who has purchased or raised a heifer that he or she wants to show, please make note of all ownership deadlines. If a deadline is approaching and you haven’t received the transferred registration, the Association can help.

Contact the Association at least two weeks prior to the show ownership deadline. Every effort will be made to get the transfer processed in time. Remember, late transfers are never accepted, regardless of the reason or circumstances.

2020 Angus Convention

Mark your calendars to attend the 2020 Angus Convention at the Kansas City Convention Center in Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 7-9.

Booth information is available

at www.angusconvention.com.

Registration and hotel blocks will open July 1.

The convention offers producers and industry leaders opportunities for networking, education and breed improvement, in addition to conducting the business of the American Angus Association.

Sale/field-day kit

Producers planning a summer field day or a fall sale can request a sale-day kit from the new Angus Brand website. Go online and visit The Angus Brand at www.shop.angus.org to find educational and promotional information about the Angus breed and Association programs. Printed literature is still free, but will now include the cost of shipping. Pick up a new t-shirt or coffee mug while you order literature, as all Angus Brand purchases benefit the Angus Foundation.

MaternalPlus incentives

A whole-herd reporting initiative, MaternalPlus®, began at the Association in 2012 with the aim to increase the suite of cow productivity selection tools available to Angus members and their commercial customers. Members already submitting 100% of their weaning weights each year, heifer breeding records and dam disposal codes, should consider signing up for MaternalPlus whole-herd reporting and reap additional benefits.

Benefits include:

- Calving ease direct, birth weight, and weaning weight EPDs on unregistered calves.
- Increased accuracy of heifer pregnancy EPDs that are now included in \$M (maternal weaned calf value).

- Additional herd management reports.
- Cash-back rebates on American Angus Association fees.

It’s simple. It’s AHIR® for the whole herd. To learn more about MaternalPlus whole-herd reporting, visit www.angus.org/MaternalPlus or your AAA Login.

Custom cattle tags

Cattle producers looking for affordable ways to identify their herd can visit www.customcattletags.com, a service provided by the American Angus Association. Custom Cattle Tags provides high-quality, low-cost, customized ear tags, Tissue Sampling Units (TSUs), sale tags and 840 radio frequency identification (RFID) tags for cattle producers across the United States.

AngusLink sale book ad rebate available

AngusLinkSM promotional ads are available for Angus breeders to use in their sale books. AngusLink is a USDA PVP for age and source. Enrolled lots that are exclusively sired by registered and transferred Angus bulls can qualify for the Angus-sired Genetics PVP at no added cost. Optional PVPs for NHTC, NE3, and Cattle Care and Handling can also be added to the enrollment.

Visit www.angus.org/pub/SaleBookInserts.aspx to download an ad that fits the size you need for your sale book and turn in the rebate form.

A check will be mailed upon confirmation of ad placement in the amount of \$250 for a full-page ad and \$150 for either a half-page or quarter-page ad. 