

Compiled by Megan Silveira,
assistant editor

POSTCARD FROM A JUNIOR



Marcie Harward

Focus on genetics in the Business Breed

Leadership. Innovation. Excellence. These are just a few of the many values the American Angus Association strives to provide its members.

Every program, technology or service was established so its members have all the resources and tools they need to successfully raise high-quality Angus cattle. However, this would not have been possible without participation, hard work and an openness to change by cattlemen and women across the country.

The Association provides members with resources and programs to help them maximize the value of their Angus herd by supplying the best tools and information available.

Data has been submitted and genetic tests have been completed on thousands of animals to give members accurate information,

but none of this would have been possible without the participation of Angus producers and members.

Participation is key to any innovation and change that can occur, and the Association and its members show that every day. For example, because of the thousands of genomic samples sent in by Angus producers, Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI) has greatly improved our ability to test Angus genetics and be able to utilize that information more accurately. Another example is through requests of Angus producers, new expected progeny differences (EPD) were created to help measure important traits for today's cattlemen.

No matter how large or small a herd may be, your individual participation in these programs is the key to the past and future success of the Angus breed. I encourage you to continue to find ways to get involved and participate in the American Angus Association, your state Angus Association and your state programs.

From genetics and data submission to special events, there are many opportunities provided by the American Angus Association and National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) to give their members the tools and guidance to be successful in the Angus breed and the beef industry today.

— Marcie Harward

Bronze and Silver Awards

Avary Blakey, Stillwater, Okla.; Kinsey Crowe, Eaton, Ohio; David Bell, Nottingham, Pa.; Jacqueline Bramhall, Lovettsville, Va.; Raleigh Doerstler, Hagerstown, Ind.; Andi Gardner, Garrison, Texas; Heather Gladney, Buhl, Ala.; Gracyn Lee Meier, Jackson, Mo.; Josey Jo Meier, Jackson, Mo.; and Ciara Raithel, Auxvasse, Mo., have earned the NJAA's Bronze and Silver awards, according to Jaclyn Upperman, events and education director of the American Angus

Association in Saint Joseph, Mo. Allison Davis, Shelbyville, Tenn., has earned the NJAA's Silver award; and Colton Becker, Atlantic, Iowa; Catie Collison, Lake City, Iowa; Raegan Gilbert, Lula, Ga.; Madyson Krusemark, Burlington, Wis.; Kerrigan Mobley, Diagonal, Iowa; Avery Mullen, Ulysses, Kan.; Hallie Mullen, Ulysses, Kan.; Emma Vanhoy, Catawba, N.C.; and Hannah Vanhoy, Catawba, N.C., have earned the NJAA's Bronze award.

The Bronze and Silver awards are the first two levels of the NJAA

Recognition Program that began in 1972. Junior Angus breeders must apply for the awards, then meet point requirements in many areas of participation before receiving the honors. Applicants are evaluated in areas of junior Angus association activities and leadership, participation in showmanship, contests and shows, using performance testing to improve their herd, and their progress in producing and merchandising Angus cattle.

Stillwater, Okla., local, **Avary Blakey**, is Bo Blakey's 17-year-old

daughter. She currently attends Stillwater High School.

Blakey is a member of the NJAA and the Oklahoma Junior Angus Association (OJAA), where she has served her state as president and royalty. She has also participated in shows at all levels.

Kinsey Crowe is from Eaton, Ohio. The 20-year-old is the daughter of Gwen Crowe. She currently attends Oklahoma State University and is a member of both the NJAA and the Ohio Junior Angus Association, where she has served as secretary.

She has shown at all levels, including the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). There she has participated in the quiz bowl contest and served as a voting delegate. Crowe has also participated in the the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference.

David Bell, Dave and Tiffany Bell's 18-year-old son, currently attends Oxford Area High School. Bell is from Nottingham, Pa., and a member of the NJAA and the Pennsylvania Junior Angus Association (PJAA), where he has served as director.

Additionally, he has shown at all levels. Bell has attended the NJAS, where he has participated in photography, livestock judging and skill-a-thon contests.

Jacqueline Bramhall is the 18-year-old daughter of Pamela Bramhall. She is from Lovettsville, Va., and currently attends Woodgrove High School. She is a member of the NJAA and the Virginia Junior Angus Association (VJAA), where she has served as treasurer.

Bramhall has participated in shows at all levels and attended the NJAS, where she participated in the quiz bowl contest and the All-American CAB cook-off. She also participated in the mentoring program.

Hagerstown, Ind., native, **Raleigh Doerstler**, is 12 years old. She is the daughter of Mark and Dreu Doerstler. She attends Hagerstown Junior/Senior High School and is a member of both the NJAA and the Indiana Junior Angus Association (IJAA).

Doerstler has shown at all levels and attended the NJAS. She has participated in the quiz bowl, livestock judging, photography, public speaking and creative writing and the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American Certified Angus Beef (CAB) Cook-off. She also participated in the mentoring program.

Andi Gardner is a 14-year-old from Garrison, Texas. She is the daughter of Andy and Kristin Gardner and attends Garrison Middle School.

Gardner is a member of both the NJAA and the Texas Junior Angus Association (TJAA). She has shown at the local and state levels.

Nineteen-year-old, **Heather Gladney**, is from Buhl, Ala. She is the daughter of Jonathan Gladney and attends Mississippi State University, where she is studying agribusiness management.

She is a member of the NJAA and the Alabama Junior Angus Association, where she has served her state as director. Gladney has shown at all levels.

At the NJAS, she has participated in both the quiz bowl and the mentoring program. She has also attended the Raising the Bar conference and consigned cattle to the It's All Black and White Bull Sale.

Gracyn Lee Meier is from Jackson, Mo. Brian and Paula Meier's 12-year-old daughter attends Jackson R-2 School. She is a member of the NJAA and the Missouri Junior Angus Association (MJAA).

At the NJAS, Meier participated in the team sales, skill-a-thon, livestock

judging, stockman, graphic design, photography and quiz bowl contests, as well as the Cook-off. Meier also previously participated in the mentoring program.

She has also submitted weight data to the Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®).

Josey Jo Meier is Gracyn's 15-year-old sister. She currently attends Jackson R-2 High School. Josey is a member of the NJAA and the MJAA. She has served her state as royalty and participated in shows at the state and national level.

She also has attended the NJAS, where she participated in the quiz bowl, Skill-a-thon, livestock judging and career development contests and the All-American CAB Cook-off. Josey was a participant in the NJAS's mentoring program.

Along with submitting weight data to the AHIR, Josey has consigned cattle to the Butch's Angus Sale.

Ciara Raitchel, Amanda Raitchel's 20-year-old daughter, is studying agricultural communications at the University of Missouri. The Auxvasse, Mo., native is a member of the NJAA and the MJAA.

Raitchel has participated in shows at all levels. She has also attended the NJAS, where she has participated in the livestock judging, photography, team fitting and quiz bowl contests and the Cook-off.

In addition to serving as a voting delegate, Raitchel has participated in the mentoring program at the NJAS. She has consigned cattle to the Sydenstricker Angus Genetics Sale.

Allison Davis is Mark and Loretta Davis' 18-year-old daughter.

Davis is from Shelbyville, Tenn., and attends Shelbyville Central High School. She is a member of both the NJAA and the Tennessee Junior

Continued on page 152

Angus Association, where she has served as president, vice president and secretary.

Davis has shown at the regional and national level, including the NJAS, where she participated in the photography and quiz bowl contests. In addition to serving as a national voting delegate and attending the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference, she has also consigned cattle to private treaty sales.

Atlantic, Iowa, native **Colton Becker** is the 15-year-old son of John Becker. He is a member of the NJAA and the Iowa Junior Angus Association, where he has served his state as director.

Becker has shown at all levels. At the NJAS, Becker has participated in the team sales, livestock judging and team fitting contests. He also took part in the mentoring program.

Catie Collison is from Lake City, Iowa. Collison is the 17-year-old daughter of Vince and Jane Collison. She is a member of the NJAA and the Iowa Junior Angus Association, where she has previously served as director.

Along with showing at the state and national level, Collison has attended the NJAS. She has participated in both the quiz bowl and the All-American CAB cook-off.

Raegan Gilbert is Amber Gilbert's 15-year-old daughter. The Lula, Ga., native is a member of the NJAA and the Georgia Junior Angus Association (GJAA), where she has served as director and royalty.

Gilbert has shown at all levels, including the NJAS, where she participated in the livestock judging contest.

Madyson Krusemark is Jeremy and Lois Krusemark's 12-year-old daughter. She is from Burlington,

Wis., and currently attends St. John's Lutheran School. She is a member of the NJAA and the Wisconsin Junior Angus Association.

Krusemark has shown at all levels. She has submitted weight data to the AHIR and consigned cattle to the Wisconsin Angus Sale.

Diagonal, Iowa, local **Kerrigan Mobley** is the 18-year-old daughter of Wyatt Mobley. She currently attends Diagonal High School and is a member of the NJAA and the IJAA.

Mobley has shown at all levels and submitted weight data to the AHIR.

Ulysses, Kan., native, **Avery Mullen**, is Tyson and Emily Mullen's 10-year-old daughter. She is a member of the NJAA and the Kansas Junior Angus Association (KJAA).

In addition to showing at all levels, Mullen has attended the NJAS. There, she previously participated in the public speaking, photography and graphic design contests.

Hallie Mullen is Avery's eight-year-old sister. She is also a member of the NJAA and the KJAA.

Along with showing at the state level, Hallie has submitted weight data to the AHIR.

Emma Vanhoy is Nathan Vanhoy's 17-year-old daughter and from Catawba, N.C.

She attends Bandys High School and is a member of the NJAA and the North Carolina Junior Angus Association. She has served her state as first vice president and royalty.

She has participated in shows at the local, state and regional levels. Vanhoy also attended the LEAD conference.

Hannah Vanhoy, Emma's 16-year-old sister, also attends Bandys High School. She is a member of the NJAA and the North Carolina Junior Angus Association, where she has filled the role of both director and secretary.

Hannah has shown at the local, state and regional level. She has also attended the LEAD conference.

Ag Butler collegiate ambassadors

AgButler announces the 10 collegiate ambassadors committed to being advocates for the agricultural industry. The gig economy platform is in the connections business and serves as a solution to the rural labor shortage in America. AgButler Ambassadors are tasked with helping connect laborers and employers within the app using their own personal agricultural networks.

"Our goal for the AgButler Ambassador program is to encourage the next generation of young people passionate about agriculture to stay invested in production agriculture and their rural communities," says Kevin Johansen, founder and CEO. "The AgButler platform directly stems from the means of which put me through college and young adulthood. We are excited for the young people selected and believe they are already top-notch advocates for the agricultural community."

Each of the 10 ambassadors will use their voice to help share the AgButler platform with their region. The ambassadors will receive a \$500 scholarship with the potential for one ambassador to earn a \$1,000 scholarship if they aid in the most connections. Danika Gordon, Angus junior from Sturgis, S.D., was named as one of the ambassadors.

Kansas Angus Futurity Junior Show, Jan. 23, Hutchinson



Winning top honors in the senior showmanship division (from left) are Lauren Frederick, Hutchinson, champion, and Baylee Wulfkuhle, Berryton, reserve champion.



Winning top honors in the intermediate showmanship division (from left) are Dustin Denton, Blue Rapids, champion, and Kelsey Theis, Leavenworth, reserve champion.



Winning top honors in the junior showmanship division (from left) are Cohen Navinsky, Winchester, champion, and Aubree McCurry, Hutchinson, reserve champion.



Winning top honors in the novice showmanship division (from left) are Hallie Mullen, Ulysses, champion, and Molly McCurry, Hutchinson, reserve champion.

Kansas Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting and Banquet, Jan. 22, Hutchinson



Young ladies were crowned as Angus royalty. Pictured are Greta Rosenhagen (left), Cheney, Miss Kansas Angus, and Addie Haverkamp, Bern, Kansas Angus ambassador. Photo by Anne Lampe.



Baylee Wulfkuhle (right), Berryton, received the Kenneth and Lorene Moore Memorial scholarship. Also pictured is Esther McCabe, American Angus Ass'n director of performance programs, presenting. Photo by Anne Lampe.



Eva Hinrichsen (left), Westmoreland, received the Kansas Angus Ass'n Young Producer Scholarship. Also pictured is Clint Woodrow (right), Kansas Angus Ass'n immediate past president, presenting. Photo by Anne Lampe.