

How to Get Involved

The National Junior Angus Show, scheduled for July 8-13 in Milwaukee, Wis., is much more than a cattle show.

Story & photos by **Lance Ziesch**

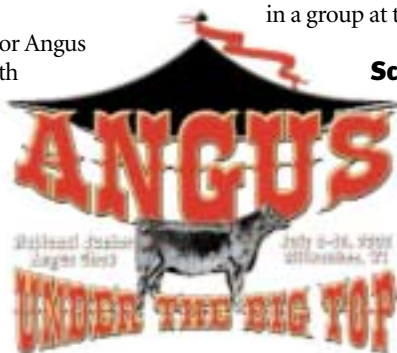
The 2002 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) is right around the corner, and now is your chance to get involved in one or more of the event's activities.

The NJAS, founded in 1969 as the National Junior Angus Heifer Show, is the world's largest single-breed youth cattle show. It is a cattle show — with classes for bred-and-owned heifers and bulls, owned heifers, cow-calf pairs, and steers. But it's much more. In addition to showing competition, there are numerous contests, events and meetings, including the annual meeting of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA).

"Even if you are not going to show an animal, it's still a great way to see what's going on," says Heath Johnson, an NJAA Board member from Corinth, Miss. "There are so many different contests, everyone can get a little taste of something while they are there. It's the show that's for everybody."

If you're a junior, regular or life member of the American Angus

Association and between the ages of 9 and 21 as of Jan. 1 of the current year, there are various ways to participate as an individual or in a group at this year's NJAS.



Scrapbook contest

Through the scrapbook contest, junior associations are encouraged to keep records and highlights of their achievements. The contest also provides a means by which junior associations can show others what they have done, become familiar with other junior groups and share ideas.

Any state or regional junior Angus association may enter a scrapbook at the NJAS. The association need not have a display of cattle or a booth to enter a scrapbook; however, scrapbooks can be part of the herdsmanship displays. Thus, by taking a scrapbook to the national show, an association can enter the scrapbook contest and can improve its chances of winning the herdsmanship competition.

Meet Milwaukee

As the site of the 2002 National Junior Angus Show, Milwaukee, Wis., offers activities for the whole family.

by **Sue Gordon**

While Angus enthusiasts will undoubtedly trek to Wisconsin this July for the cattle and youth events featured at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), the city of Milwaukee also offers a variety of venues for a great family getaway while you're in town.

Located on the shores of Lake Michigan, Milwaukee is home to American icons Harley-Davidson and the Miller Brewing Co. As the United States' 19th largest city, it also boasts a world-renowned zoo, impressive museums and outdoor garden parks, as well as a river walk, full of shops and restaurants, winding through the heart of downtown.

Although Angus activities are sure to keep you busy, here are a few ideas for sightseeing should a spare afternoon come your way:

Hops and Harley tours

Historically, Milwaukee has been home to several breweries, the most famous being Miller Brewing Co. Thus, no visit to Milwaukee could be complete without a tour of the brewing process, beginning with the brew house and continuing through to packaging and distribution. The Miller Brewing Co. Visitor Center offers just that

— including a visit to the caves where the beer was stored before the invention of the refrigerator. There's also a gift shop and a tasting room, but bring your identification. For more tour information call (414) 931-BEER or visit www.millerbrewing.com.

Another popular Milwaukee attraction is the Harley-Davidson Tour Center. The tours showcase how the Sportster and Buell engines are made especially for Harley-Davidson motorcycles. Visitors must be 12 or older and special arrangements must be made for groups of five or more. For information call (414) 535-3666.

If sports are more your speed, the Miller Park Baseball Stadium, which was completed in March 2001, is home to the Milwaukee Brewers. It features a state-of-the-art, retractable roof that opens and closes like a fan in about 10 minutes. Summer tours of the facility — including a visit to the dugout, clubhouse and press box — are offered from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., every day except Monday, and last about 70 minutes. To set up a tour, call (414) 902-4005.

Museums galore

If educational activities are on your agenda, Milwaukee's museums will fit the bill. Take the youngsters to the Milwaukee Public Museum (www.mpm.edu), one of the country's best natural history museums. Exhibits include life-size replicas of dinosaurs, habitat and animal displays from around the globe and a butterfly display where hundreds of live tropical butterflies flutter about as you stroll through their rain forest setting. You can also catch a show on the six-story-tall screen at the Humphrey IMAX Dome Theater adjacent to the museum.

For more museum exhibits, visit Discovery World right next door. Selected by NBC's *Today* show as one of the top five

Scrapbooks must be created completely by current members of the state junior association. The cover should incorporate the association's name and should be creative, but not costly. The state logo, Angus artwork, or other appropriate artwork and wording may be included. Each scrapbook should have a consistent and evident theme.

The scrapbook should include a listing of junior officers, representatives, members and advisors. It should mention any meetings, activities, shows, displays, games, parties or work sessions in which the junior association took part. Any association communications, such as newsletters or notices, also should be included.

Scrapbooks will be judged on content, organization, neatness, effectiveness of the layout and general effect. Winning entries up to fifth place receive cash prizes, and additional awards may be presented to participating associations.

State herdsmanship contest

The purpose of the herdsmanship contest is to encourage cooperation, fellowship and teamwork among state juniors in developing and maintaining a display of cattle and a stall area. It also promotes pride and enthusiasm for the state junior organization and rewards organizations displaying such enthusiasm.

State associations are divided into three divisions: those with 36

head or more, those with 16-35 head, and those with 15 head or fewer. They are judged on cleanliness and general appearance of aisle and bedding; cleanliness and grooming of animals; arrangement, attractiveness and general appearance of equipment, boxes, signs and remainder of display; appearance, knowledge and attitude of personnel attending cattle; and promotion of association, state, Angus or beef.

The actual booth space may not exceed a 10×10-foot (ft.) area. The emphasis in the scoring is placed on cleanliness and general appearance of the aisle and how the animals are maintained.

Cash prizes are awarded to the state junior association for all three divisions, and each of the exhibitors in the first-place groups receives a plaque.



Cook-Off

Another contest opportunity is the All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Cook-Off. The American Angus Auxiliary and the NJAA co-sponsor this popular event, which is coordinated by the Auxiliary's Beef Education Committee. It has been part of the NJAS since 1983.

For junior participants, there are three age divisions: 9 to 13, 14 to 17 and 18 to 21 years as of Jan. 1 of the current year. Each team may include two to six members of a state junior association. There is only

CONTINUED ON PAGE 36

interactive museums in the nation, its displays focus on science and technology.

To entertain the real youngsters (age 10 and under), check out Milwaukee's only museum designed specifically for that age group, the Betty Brinn Children's Museum (www.bbcmkids.org). Cited as "one of the 10 best children's museums nationwide," it features hands-on exhibits for kids like crawling through a huge ear, counting money in a bank vault and even seeing themselves on television.

For those looking for the glamour of a bygone era, visit the Captain Frederick Pabst Mansion (www.pabstmansion.com). Built in 1892, it is listed on the National Register of Historic Homes. The mansion boasts 37 rooms, 12 baths and 14 fireplaces. It has been restored and serves as a museum.

Explore the outdoors

During the summer, Milwaukee blooms with color. At the Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, also known as "The Domes" (www.countyparks.com/horticulture/domes/), one can experience a desert oasis, a tropical jungle and special floral gardens in the three unique glass-domed conservatories. Each showcases an array of plants and colorful birds from around the world.

Also maintained by the Milwaukee County Parks Department, Boerner Botanical Gardens (www.countyparks.com) is home to a breathtaking formal garden located within an extensive park/arboretum, which includes picnic areas, a nature center, hiking trails, a lake and a golf course.

If it's a variety of animals you aim to see, consider a visit to the Milwaukee County Zoo (www.milwaukeezoo.org). It boasts more than 2,500 animals on 200 wooded acres.

For a shopping excursion, stroll along the River Walk — a ribbon

of sidewalk that meanders along the Milwaukee River through the heart of downtown. There you can explore specialty shops or enjoy a leisurely lunch at one of Milwaukee's trendy restaurants or brew pubs.

Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward (www.historicthirdward.org) in the downtown area also offers shopping. This restored warehouse district features eclectic art galleries, cafés, coffeehouses, antique stores and boutiques. Walking tours of the historic district, which was first built in the 1900s, are also offered.

To request a Milwaukee visitors' guide call 1-800-554-1448.

CAB® in Milwaukee

If you're seeking restaurants that feature *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) while in Milwaukee, here are a few to consider:

- ▶ **Brew City Bar-B-Q**, 1114 N. Water St., Milwaukee, WI 53202-3108; (414) 278-7033
- ▶ **Cork N Cleaver**, 5311 S. Howell Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53207-6114; (414) 481-6663
- ▶ **Osteria Del Mondo**, 1028 E. Juneau Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202; (414) 291-3770 (Serves authentic Italian homemade pastas and tasty meat entrées. Annually earns recognition as one of Milwaukee's top 25 restaurants.)
- ▶ **South Woods Restaurant**, 5404 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Cudahy, WI 53110; (414) 744-5430 (Features steaks, ribs and prime rib as its specialties. Diners receive complimentary desserts on their birthday or anniversary. A banquet room is also available for groups.)

Source: From the Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) Web site at www.cabprogram.com/. Click on Flavor Finder to locate restaurants serving CAB products.

How to Get Involved CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35

one adult division; however, adults may participate as individuals or as teams.

Competing in one of two categories (fresh meat or quick-n-easy entrées), teams present their cook-off entries to a panel of judges. Judges give the teams scores for showmanship and recipe. Winners in each category are awarded prizes for their divisions.

The Black Kettle Award is presented to the highest-placing team among all age groups at the contest's conclusion. First given at the 2000 NJAS, the award commemorates Paul St. Blanc, an Angus breeder and Cook-Off participant who supported the contest for many years.

Cook-Off Coordinator Anne Patton Schubert says one of the event's challenges is the fact that it has a new home every year.

"The contestants never know what to expect. It's good if they approach the contest with a sense of humor and are flexible to change," she says. "Things don't always work out like they're planned. The ability to work with their team members to create a skit to highlight the CAB information is also important."

Carcass contest

As the name implies, the carcass contest is based on an animal's actual carcass data rather than its appearance in the showing. Introduced in 1985, the contest was discontinued after the 1991 NJAS due to lack of interest. In 1993, it was redesigned and returned to the NJAS with a greater emphasis on quality.

The carcass steer contest is completely separate from the on-hoof

steer show. Exhibitors may enter no more than two steers in the carcass category.

Carcass steers must meet all other show eligibility requirements. The ownership, transfer and entry deadlines are the same as for all other cattle. Carcass steer show classification includes steers born Jan. 1 through July 1 of the previous year with a minimum live weight of 950 pounds (lb.).

Carcass steers must be halter-broke, and if a parade of the carcass steers is conducted, they must be paraded to be eligible for premiums and placings. They should be washed and dried, but not fitted.

To qualify for placings and premiums, carcasses must be Yield Grade (YG) 3.99 or better and grade Choice or Prime.

Premiums are \$1,000 for first place; \$750 for second; \$500 for third; \$400 for fourth; \$350 for fifth; \$300 for sixth; \$250 for seventh; \$200 for eighth; \$150 for ninth; and \$100 for 10th. All other carcasses qualifying for placing receive a \$50 premium. Carcasses not qualifying for placing receive a \$15 premium.

Carcasses meeting CAB standards receive an additional 25% in premiums. To do this, the carcass must meet minimum show requirements and grade average-Choice or higher. If Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) are turned in on the steer and its dam, the carcass may qualify for an additional 25% premium.

State carcass group contest

New to the carcass contest in 2001 was a state-group class. All rules for eligibility to participate in the carcass contest apply. There is no



NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS SHOW HOTEL INFORMATION

Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel, headquarters — \$79 per night double/double & king, \$150 per night king suites; 375 S. Moorland Rd., Brookfield, WI 53005; (262) 364-1100; **Web site:** www.sheratonbrkfld.com; **Reference:** National Junior Angus Show

Embassy Suites — \$119 per night single & double occupancy, \$20 per each additional person; 1200 S. Moorland Rd., Brookfield, WI 53008; (262) 782-2900; **Reference:** National Junior Angus Show #1792

Best Western Midway — children under 17 stay free; Executive king or poolside: \$109 double occupancy; 1005 S. Moorland Rd., Brookfield, WI 53005; (262) 786-9540; **Reference:** National Junior Angus Show: Group Code: 0707NATI

Comfort Suites — \$89 per night; N14 W24121 Tower Place, Pewaukee, WI 53072; (262) 506-2000; **Reference:** National Junior Angus Show/Wisconsin Junior Angus block

Radisson Hotel, Milwaukee Suburban West — \$109 per night; N14 W24140 Tower Place, Pewaukee, WI, 53072; (262) 506-6300; **Reference:** National Junior Angus Show/Wisconsin Junior Angus block

Holiday Inn — \$79 per night; 2417 W. Bluemound, Waukesha, WI 53186; (262) 786-0460; **Reference:** National Junior Angus Show/Wisconsin Junior Angus Ass'n block

Super 8 — \$48 per night; 2501 Plaza Ct., Waukesha, WI 53186; (262) 785-1590; **Reference:** National Junior Angus Show/Wisconsin block

Homestead Studio Suites — \$99 per night with full kitchen facilities in each room; 325 N. Brookfield Rd., Brookfield, WI 53045; (262) 782-9300; **Reference:** National Junior Angus Show/Wisconsin block

Best Western Midway (approximately two miles from fairgrounds) — \$99 per night; 251 N. Mayfair Rd., Hwy. 100, Wauwatosa, WI 53226; (414) 774-3600; **Reference:** National Junior Angus Show (Sales: Leslie Heckel)

Exel Inn (close proximity to fairgrounds) — \$62 per single or \$72 per double (three night minimum); 115 N. Mayfair Road, Hwy. 100, Wauwatosa, WI 53226; (414) 257-0140 or 1-800-356-8013; **Reference:** National Junior Angus Show

Wisconsin State Fair Park Youth Center (on fairgrounds) — \$50 includes bunk beds, private bath/shower, television in lounge on each floor, pay phone available, linen package available for \$5 per person; 640 S. 84th St., West Allis, WI 53214; (414) 266-7000; **Web site:** wistatefair.com; **Reference:** National Junior Angus Show

Wisconsin State Fair Park Campground (on fairgrounds) — Full hookup: \$25 per night; Electric only: \$20 per night; 601 S. 76th, West Allis, WI; (414) 266-7035; **Web site:** wistatefair.com; **Reference:** National Junior Angus Show

limit to the number of groups a state may enter.

“Individuals will have to get together with other people from their state who are also entering carcass steers and put together a set of three steers that compete as a group,” says James Fisher, director of activities and junior activities for the Association. At least two exhibitors must be represented in a group.

The groups may be entered at any time following the official carcass steer weigh-in, but they must be designated prior to the cattle’s being shipped to the packing plant for harvest and data collection. Entries are submitted by completing a state carcass group contest entry form that lists the ear tag (entry) numbers of the three steers in the group.

No entry fee, independent of that to participate in the individual carcass steer contest, is assessed to exhibitors designating cattle for the state carcass group contest.

The carcass groups are ranked using an adjusted group carcass index. Individual carcass index values are averaged, and then the range between the low and the high individual indexes within the group is subtracted from the group index. The carcass group with the highest adjusted index is the winner.

Points toward determining the NJAS sweepstakes winner will be awarded to each state. Awards and premiums are paid to the champion and reserve champion state carcass groups.

Team sales competition

The objective of the team sales competition is to gain a working understanding of performance and pedigree information. Emphasis is placed on team organization, communication skills and marketing techniques. This contest has been part of the NJAS since 1991.

“The team sales contest is probably the most valuable contest of the entire show because it’s dealing with real-life situations,” says Johnson. “You market your cattle every day. That’s how you sell your cattle, and ultimately that’s how the Association makes money — by your selling your animals.

“To be able to sell your animals, you have to have good marketing skills. And that’s not just for cattle. That’s across the board for any kind of business, anywhere in the world. You have to market your product. That’s why I think it’s a great contest. It increases your skills to sell your animal, and it helps your confidence as far as public speaking.”

Each state association may enter one team of three individuals in each age division: 9 to 13, 14 to 17 and 18 to 21 years. Mixed-age teams may enter; however, their division will be that of the oldest member of the team.

If your state doesn’t have enough members present for a team, you may ask a junior from another state to compete on your team. Combined teams must consist of at least two members from the same state. However, if a state association already has a team, no one else from that junior association may compete on a combined team.

Teams must sign up during the registration period. The order of presentations will be determined by a drawing after preregistration.

Participants in the senior division will be provided with a complete scenario on the day of the registration. The team is required to select its own live animal and to find a pedigree to match the scenario. It is not necessary that the animal and the pedigree correspond.



Presentations last five to 10 minutes, including questions. All presentations will be stopped at the end of 10 minutes.

Each individual on the team will be expected to speak during the presentation. The objective of each team is to sell its heifer, bull or cow-calf pair to the judges. Pedigree information, performance information and visual characteristics should be discussed, and other information may be included.

The judges’ questions may not be limited to the three topics listed. Teams will be discounted for using notes, but they are encouraged to use reference materials. The judges will not interrupt the junior division. However, they will be encouraged to ask questions throughout the presentation in the intermediate and senior divisions.

Each team is allowed to enter the ring with only the animal being marketed and one set of sales materials per judge. A three-member judging panel will award points for knowledge, ability to communicate, team organization and overall effect. Points will be deducted for dependence on notes, not submitting three copies of the registration certificates, nonspeaking team members and failure to meet the five-minute presentation time minimum.

Prizes are awarded to the top three places in each division.

Creative writing contest

The NJAA and the Junior Activities Department are co-sponsoring a new creative writing contest. Its purpose is to encourage the enhancement of written communication skills and to allow junior Angus members another chance to compete prior to the NJAS. However, the entries will be displayed at the show.

Entries should be informative and, if appropriate, entertaining. They should not be research papers, but should be suitable for printing in the *Angus Journal* or in a state Angus publication.

Junior division entries should be between 300-500 words, and they may be typed or printed in ink. Regardless of the format, they must be double-spaced, and typed entries should be in 12-point type.

Intermediate division entries should be 600-800 words; senior division entries, 800-1,000 words. Entries in both divisions should be typed, double-spaced and in 12-point type.

A cover page should include the junior member’s name, address, phone number, birth date and member code. No mention of the contestant’s name should be on any of the other pages, and all pages should be numbered.

It is to the discretion of the NJAA Board to assign topics, and this year’s topic is to write a creative story or feature story that covers a current beef industry issue.

Judges will evaluate the written works as directed by a score sheet. Entries will be scored on grammar, spelling, organization and content. Points will be deducted on entries that are either too short or too long.

All entries should be sent to the Junior Activities Department, and must be postmarked by June 1. Late entries will not be judged.

Winners will be selected in three age divisions: 9 to 13, 14 to 17 and 18 to 21 years as of Jan. 1 of the current year. Prizes will be \$50 for first, \$30 for second and \$20 for third. Winners will be announced at the NJAS and, if space permits, winning entries will be published in the *Angus Journal*.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 38

How to Get Involved CONTINUED FROM PAGE 37

Prepared speaking

In an effort to foster the development of speaking skills among NJAA members, the Junior Activities Department and the NJAA Board organized a national public speaking contest in 1989.

To compete, contestants are required to submit a typewritten, double-spaced outline of their speeches to the Junior Activities Department by June 25.

The outline must be the result of the contestant's own efforts. A title page (including the title of the speech and the speaker's name, member code, hometown and birth date) should be included.

Contestants will be divided into three age groups: 9 to 13, 14 to 17 and 18 to 21 years as of Jan. 1 of the current year. Contest officials will determine the speaking order by drawing lots. The order will be posted prior to the contest.

For junior and intermediate divisions, the topic of the speech may be any subject pertaining to Angus cattle or the beef industry. Exploration of, and insight into, any and all phases of the industry are encouraged. Current affairs, policies and trends provide good topics.

This year, senior contestants are asked to respond to the question, "What are the obstacles to youth returning to production agriculture, and what can be done to help overcome those obstacles?"

All speeches must be the result of the contestant's own efforts and may not have been presented for competition at a previous NJAS. Each speech in the junior division should be four to six minutes in length, and the intermediate- and senior-division entries should last six to eight minutes. Points are deducted for going under or over the specified length. Each contestant will be allowed up to five minutes to answer questions from the three judges.

Contestants will be permitted to use notes. Excessive reference to notes, however, may result in scoring deductions. The use of visual aids is not allowed. Contestants are scored 20% on organization and content, 20% on language and delivery, 20% on presentation, 20% on effectiveness, and 20% on response to questions.

Contest officials will collect judges' score sheets, deduct points if necessary for time violations and rank the contestants in numerical order on the basis of each judge's scores. The rankings (not the score) of the three judges are added for each speaker, and the final placings are determined by the lowest composite rankings.

Prizes and cash awards will be presented to the top contestants in each division. First place receives \$125; second, \$100; and third, \$75.

The *Angus Journal* provides the top three senior contestants with college scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 for first place, \$750 for second and \$500 for third. Space permitting, winning speeches will be published in the *Angus Journal*. Recipients of the scholarship awards will receive the awards after the Junior Activities Department receives proof of enrollment at an institution of higher education.

Extemporaneous speaking

Introduced in 1996, the extemporaneous public speaking contest is designed to develop the ability of members to express themselves on a given subject without much rehearsal.

All participants are required to register for the event during the contest sign-up. Participants will be divided into three age groups: 9

to 13, 14 to 17 and 18 to 21 years as of Jan. 1 of the current year.

The NJAA Board members in charge of the contest choose 10 speech topics relating to agriculture or the Angus breed. Thirty minutes before their turn to present, the participants draw three topics from the pool of 10, and select one to be the topic of their presentation.

Participants are given 30 minutes for topic selection and preparation. Any notes for speaking must be made during this time, and participants must use the uniform note cards provided. As many as five printed reference materials are allowed during preparation. However, the NJAA Board screens them.

An NJAA Board member introduces each participant by name and state, and then the participants introduce their speeches by title only. Each speech must be

between two and six minutes in length, not including the three minutes allowed for related questions from the judges. Deductions will be made for not meeting the time requirements.

The participant may use notes while speaking, but deductions in scoring may be made for this practice if it detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation.

Three judges will score each participant on delivery. Each judge formulates and asks questions pertaining directly to the speaker's subject. Participants are evaluated on their ability to answer the questions. The full three

minutes should be used.

The judges' score sheets are submitted to the event officials to determine final rankings of participants. Participants are ranked in numerical order on the basis of their final scores, which are determined by each judge without consultation. The participant with the lowest total ranking is the winner.

Prizes and cash awards are presented to the top three contestants in each age division. First place receives \$75; second, \$50; and third, \$25.

Poster contest

Since 1990 the NJAA and the Junior Activities Department have co-sponsored a poster contest during the NJAS. Its purpose is to display the creative talent of NJAA members and to share ideas that may be useful in promoting the breed, its organizations and individual herds. It also provides another competitive activity for juniors who may or may not be able to participate in other programs.

There are three subject categories: breed/association promotion, membership recruitment and herd advertisement. Entries will be grouped according to the contestants' ages. The three age groups will be 9 to 13, 14 to 17 and 18 to 21 years as of Jan. 1 of the current year.

Contestants need not be present at the time of judging to enter. In this way there will be no scheduling conflicts for junior participants. All posters will be placed on display throughout the show. Awards will be presented to the top entries in each division. Selected entries may be used in the *Angus Journal* or other publications.

All posters must have been created within the current year and may not have been presented for competition at a previous NJAS. Juniors may enter up to three posters, but no more than one per



category. Poster dimensions must be either 14×22 in. or 22×28 in., and the posters may be exhibited by one contestant only. Those belonging to more than one contestant will be disqualified.

There is no limit as to the use or style of drawings or lettering, provided they are the design and handiwork of the entrant. Posters should not be made using computer-generated graphics or designs, and three-dimensional posters are not allowed. Photographs, magazine clippings, stencils and adhesive lettering may be used.

For best results, it is suggested that posters be laminated or covered with clear contact paper. All entries must be turned in at the show office by 4 p.m., Tuesday, July 9, at the NJAS. Posters should not be mailed to the Association office. They may be sent to the show with other juniors.

Cash awards are presented to the top contestants in each division. First place receives \$30; second, \$20; and third, \$10. In addition, a top poster in each age division will be named.

Graphic-design contest

The NJAA and the Junior Activities Department have co-sponsored a graphic-design contest during the NJAS since 1999. Its purpose is threefold: to display the creative talent of NJAA members; to share ideas that may be useful in promotion of the Angus breed, its organizations and its individual herds; and to provide another fun, educational and competitive activity for interested juniors who may or may not be able to participate in other programs.

The entries in the graphic-design contest have been of varying types. To allow for a better comparison of the entries, they will be limited to a specific entry type each year.

“Previously, it was pretty wide open. Anything they wanted to



design and put together, they could enter,” Fisher says. “And we had to compare it all.

Rather than break it down into categories, we decided to come up with one area that we ask them to do.”

The 2002 graphic-design contest requires members to create a promotional flier for their state junior Angus association targeted to potential members.

Contestants are divided into three age groups: 9 to 13, 14 to 17 and 18 to 21 years as of Jan. 1 of the current year. The entries must be the current year’s work and may not have been presented for competition at a previous NJAS. The objective of the piece must be described on the entry form, as a portion of the score is dependent upon how it meets the stated

objectives. There is a limit of one entry per contestant. This year entries should be sent to the Junior Activities Department and postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service by June 1.

All entries are placed on display throughout the show, and contestants need not be present at the time of judging to enter. Scoring will be based on a 50-point scale with 10 points given for each of the following categories: originality, message, eye appeal, use of space and design. Cash awards are presented to the top contestants in each division, and selected entries may be used in the *Angus Journal* or other publications. Prize money will be paid in each age group: \$30 for first place, \$20 for second and \$10 for third.

Project of the year

The NJAA and the Junior Activities Department are co-sponsoring a new contest this year called project of the year. Its purpose is to display and share an outstanding project that was coordinated by a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 40

Entry deadlines for competitions at the 2002 National Junior Angus Show

CONTEST	ENTRY DEADLINE, TURN-IN SPOT	MATERIALS
Carcass —individual entries	June 1, entry due to Association office	Live steer
Cook-Off	June 1, Anne Patton Schubert	Recipe and list of team members with addresses
Creative writing	June 1, Association office	Entry
Graphic design	June 1, Association office	Entry
Photography	June 1, Association office	8×10-in. photo mounted on 11×14-in. black poster board
Showmanship	June 1, names submitted to Association	Junior association advisor or state adult association secretary must submit names
Prepared public speaking	June 25, Association office	Outline of speech
Carcass —state groups	Check-in	Three live steers, representing at least two exhibitors
Extemporaneous speaking	4 p.m., July 9, Show Office	
Herdsmanship		State group display
Poster	4 p.m., July 9, Show Office	Entry
Project of the year	Set up by 4 p.m., July 9	Easel, three-ring binder, display board and pamphlets
Quiz bowl	4 p.m., July 9, Show Office	For more information, contact the Junior Activities Department at (816) 383-5100.
Scrapbook	4 p.m., July 9, Show Office	Entry
Team sales	4 p.m., July 9, Show Office	

Complete rules and entry information for each competition are available on the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Web site at www.njaa.info.

How to Get Involved CONTINUED FROM PAGE 39

state or regional association. The project itself must strengthen the state's junior program, promote the beef industry, promote the Angus breed or promote youth in agriculture.

Any state or regional junior Angus association may enter — with only one entry per association per year. The project must have been completed between July 1 of the previous year and June 30 of the current year. The association need not have a display of cattle or a booth, since the project of the year will be judged separately.

Possible project topics include fund-raisers, membership recruitment, community service and leadership programs. States may enter the same project more than once, so long as the project is in the current year. However, once a project is awarded first place it must be retired from competition.

All states entering a project will be provided one 8-ft. table. The display should include one easel, one three-ring binder, one display board and 200 copies of a pamphlet describing the project for other state associations to pick up. The dimensions for the display board (measured from the floor) are a maximum of: 8 ft. wide, 9 ft. high, and 2.5 ft. deep. No other items may be included.

The project should answer the following questions: Whom does the project involve? What is the purpose of the project? When did you complete the project? Where was the project completed? Why did you choose the project? How was the project successful? Additional lessons learned may be included.

Premiums for winning entries of the contest will be a minimum of: \$50 for first, \$40 for second, \$30 for third, \$20 for fourth and \$10 for fifth.

Photography contest

The NJAA and the *Angus Journal* have co-sponsored the photography contest since its beginning in 1992. Its purpose is to help NJAA members increase their communication skills through photography and to give them the opportunity to submit photos for publication.

“We are pleased to showcase the talents of our junior members in a contest that captures the spirit and the beauty of everyday life with Angus cattle,” says Shauna Rose Hermel, *Angus Journal* editor.

A new category titled “around the farm and ranch” has been added this year. This category provides the opportunity for photographs that highlight activities and scenes around the farm or ranch, but do not necessarily have Angus cattle in the photograph. The other three categories — Angus cattle, landscapes and people — are intended for photos that center on Angus cattle or people.

A panel of qualified judges will critique photographs on the following criteria: creativity, communication power and composition of photo (60%); technical quality of the photo, such as proper light exposure, true color, sharp focus and correct cropping (40%).

Photos are to be 8×10-in. color or black-and-white prints mounted on an 11×14-in. black poster board. They may not be altered or image-enhanced in any way, and contestants are encouraged to use 35-millimeter (mm) cameras.

Entry forms can be found on the NJAA Web site at www.njaa.info, in the *Angus Journal*, or through the Junior Activities Department.

Each contestant is allowed a maximum of four entries, with no more than one photograph in each subject category. Photos may not have been presented for competition in a previous NJAS contest.

Winners will be selected in three age divisions: 9 to 13, 14 to 17, and 18 to 21 years as of Jan. 1 of the current year. Prizes will be: \$30 for first, \$20 for second, and \$10 for third.

All photographs will be displayed at the NJAS. Winning photos will be printed as part of the 2002 NJAS coverage in the September issue of the *Angus Journal*, and any submitted entries may be scanned and kept as a stock photos for future use by Angus Productions Inc.

Entries should be sent to the Junior Activities Department at the Association and must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service by June 1.

Crystal Award

The Auxiliary strongly believes in the importance of the educational contests at the NJAS. To promote and to support these contests, the organization sponsors the Crystal Award, which is based on a cumulation of placings in all of the nonshowring educational events. Crystal Awards are given to the overall high-point boy and high-point girl.

The photography, cook-off, poster, graphic-design, creative writing, extemporaneous and prepared speaking, and team sales contests are counted for the award. Points are awarded to the top three placings in each age division and contest as follows: seven points for first place, five points for second and three points for third. Participants who are not among the top three placings earn one point for each contest they enter.

The Janet Castle Crystal Award, established in memory of Janet Castle, is made possible by a generous donation from her family to the Auxiliary. Janet was one of the founders of the scholarship fund, and she served as president of the Auxiliary in 1962. Janet's vision and dedication helped many junior Angus members, so it is appropriate that the Auxiliary's newest award for juniors be named for her.

Showmanship contest

The first showmanship contest was in 1967. The contest became part of the NJAS in 1973.

It is conducted in two parts. The contestants first show animals in the preliminary round on Friday of the week; finals are on Saturday. The preliminary classes are not to exceed 15 competitors.

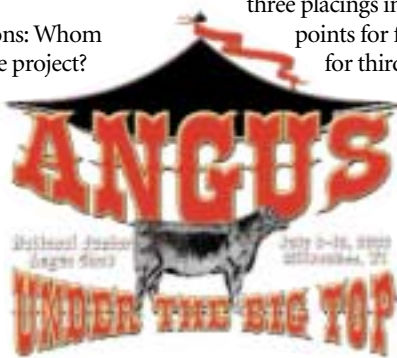
To be eligible, each contestant and alternate must be a junior, life or regular member of the American Angus Association prior to their state contest and must presently own registered Angus. For the 2002 contest, they must have been born between Jan. 1, 1981, and Dec. 31, 1987, and they must not have participated in the national showmanship contest previously.

Selection of the contestants is the responsibility of the state or provincial adult Angus association or the state junior Angus association. The secretary of the adult association or a junior advisor must submit the names to the Junior Activities Department by June 1 if they are to be listed in the contest program.

Entries are limited to two contestants from each state or province. However, all states or provinces should select two alternates in case one or both of the contestants are unable to participate.

Contestants draw lots to determine which animals they will show. The animals are selected from that year's NJAS entries, and their owners will groom them. Contestants are not permitted to compete using animals they have groomed or exhibited prior to the date of the contest.

Awards will be based on the following criteria: skill (handling and response of the animal); use of equipment by contestant during the contest; general appearance of the contestant; showing courtesy and



sportsmanship; and ability to follow instructions during the contest. The basis for awards will not include the individual excellence of the heifers shown by the contestants.

First place receives \$350; second, \$250; third, \$175; fourth, \$125; and fifth, \$100. The Association awards \$75 each to the remaining competitors. The Auxiliary presents silver Revere bowls to the top five.

Sweepstakes contest

The NJAS sweepstakes contest was introduced at the 1992 national junior show in Columbus, Ohio. It is designed to reward state junior associations for their members' participation in the various contests, exhibitions of cattle and the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest during the NJAS.

Points are awarded based upon the placings of the individuals or teams. In contests where there is more than one division, points will be awarded for each division.

Points are awarded for the highest-placing individual, team or animal from each state in each of the contest categories. In the case of a tie, the number of events entered will determine the winner.

NJAA annual meeting

In addition to the contests and other activities, the NJAS also hosts the NJAA annual meeting, which is part of the candidate/delegate dinner. Delegates and candidates are picked well in advance, usually at a state association's annual meeting.

"Not only do the delegates have the responsibility to elect the next group of leaders for the NJAA Board, but they also review any suggestions for bylaw changes," Fisher says.

"Everything is brought to them on Wednesday evening at the candidate/delegate session. On Friday afternoon, all of the delegates are brought back together to cast their ballots for the junior Board candidates and for any bylaw changes that have been presented."

"It's really tough to get on the Board," Johnson says. "Not only because of the quality of candidates you are competing against, but also because of all the work you have to put into it. But it should be, because we're the best breed association in the world. It should be that quality."

Mentoring program

A new activity this year, the mentoring program will give junior Angus members an opportunity to utilize their experience at the NJAS to assist first-time exhibitors. Through a mentor-protégé relationship, juniors of all ages will have opportunity to meet and interact with members from other states.

Junior members interested in becoming mentors must be 14 years of age or older and have attended the NJAS at least twice. They also must be able to check on their protégés at least once a day. Protégés are first-time exhibitors at the NJAS who indicate that they would like to have a mentor for the week.

Mentors should strive to make their protégés feel at home during the NJAS by helping them with rules and basic information. They should also be prepared to answer questions and to give advice to their protégés (and to their families). They are encouraged to introduce their protégés to other juniors in their state who are the same age, and they may also take protégés to competitions or contests in which they are involved (or contests the protégés might find of interest).

Juniors interested in the mentoring program can sign up as mentors or protégés by checking a box on the entry form for the NJAS. Mentor-protégé pairs will be assigned before the event, and the mentor and protégé must be from different states.

Bring the family

For many Angus enthusiasts, the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) is a family vacation and a place to make and to renew acquaintances with people who share a love of agriculture and Angus cattle.

"The national junior show is designed to be a family event, where the entire family gets involved in helping the young people learn," says James Fisher, director of activities and junior activities for the American Angus Association. "This doesn't mean doing things for them, but helping the young person learn by being part of the organization."

Brandon Walker, a National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Board member from Lexington, Ga., says the NJAS is an event for the whole family — the whole Angus family.

"The NJAS has enabled me to meet hundreds of people and build friendships for a lifetime. It's awesome fun!" Walker says. "There's nothing like hanging out at a state's showbox and just shooting the breeze. And, hey, you might even meet your future spouse," he says jokingly.

On a more serious note, Walker urges juniors to step up and get involved.

"Don't be afraid to talk to other juniors from other states," he says. "Sign up for all the contests you can. You don't have to have cattle to participate at the NJAS."

Mentors and protégés will be able to find out to whom they are assigned when they go through check-in. There will be a mixer at the NJAS hosted by the NJAA Board for all the program participants. All mentors and protégés will be recognized as a group at the Awards Program at the NJAS.

Advice for participants

"We've made some changes to the schedule that we have operated under the past few years," Fisher says. "While the cattle will be showing at the same times, we've moved some of the contests and adjusted some of those times. So, juniors will need to check their schedules closely.

"They also need to make sure the animals are registered in their name and in their name alone. I would encourage them to attend their state preview shows. We organize everything from a state level, so the juniors need to work together with their state to facilitate stalling," Fisher says. "Most states develop a theme to go along with their herdsmanhood and state booth. That's why it's important they contact their state junior advisors and work with their state junior associations to find out how their state is doing it."

Fisher also suggests that juniors bring their cattle and registration papers to the check-in area. Check the schedule for the proper check-in time, he says.

"They also need to make sure their tattoos match their registration papers. If there's a problem, they need to contact us at least two weeks in advance of the show so corrective measures can be taken," Fisher says.

With an event of this size, not everyone can go home with a trophy or an award, he adds. However, everyone can win by participating in the contests, honing their individual skills, and making and deepening Angus friendships.

"Whether it's conquering a fear by giving a speech or participating in one of the showring contests, everybody can be a winner," Fisher says.

Johnson says he agrees. Although juniors may be a little nervous about contest experiences, they shouldn't let that fear stop them, he says.

"It's really a great way to express yourself. In one week, you learn so much, not only about the Angus breed, but about yourself," he says. "You get out of it what you put into it."

