

# YCC Representative Selected

*Henry Smith of Russell Springs, Ky., selected to attend the prestigious beef industry event.*

*by Karen Hiltbrand, American Angus Association*

The Angus Foundation selected Henry Smith of Russell Springs, Ky., as the Angus representative for the 2019 Young Cattlemen's Conference (YCC), hosted by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA). The NCBA YCC program is an opportunity for young producers to gain an understanding of numerous facets of the beef industry from pasture to plate, and to showcase the industry's involvement in policy making, issues management, research, education and marketing.

"Being involved in this program will enable me to be a more effective leader, which will allow me to share what I have learned with other producers on a local, regional, state and national level," Smith says. "I believe by sharing the good news of what Angus breeders and Angus cattle have accomplished — we will continue to have a huge impact on the NCBA."

Smith inherited his passion for the Angus breed and community while working alongside his father and grandfather. In his youth, he served on the Kentucky Junior Angus Board and attended every National

Junior Angus Show (NJAS) during his eligibility. Then in 1992, he represented Kentucky in the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA)

Showmanship contest and brought home second place.

After attending Somerset Community College and graduating from Western Kentucky University with a degree in agricultural education, Smith continued to give back to the industry he grew up in. He now operates Smithland Angus Farm, a 300-head Angus and 30-head commercial cattle operation.

Smith has held leadership positions on all levels. Regionally, Smith has served on the Central Kentucky Angus Association board of directors, and in 2018, he was elected president.


"I have never met a more sincere, dedicated person or Angus breeder, and leader than Henry Smith," says Chuck Grove, current American Angus Association Board member. "He is precisely the type of individual this program was designated to assist future leaders of the beef industry."

At the state level, Smith served on the board of directors beginning in 2002 where he held both roles as vice president and later president. He chaired numerous Kentucky Angus Association committees

where he developed budgets, gained sponsors, and served as a friendly face to encourage the involvement of current and new members. He was also instrumental on the organizational committee for the Association Angus Tour when it was hosted by Kentucky.

"In those Angus leadership roles, Henry garnered the respect of his peers and truly showed his ability to lead by example," says Joe Myers, owner of Myers Angus Farm. "Henry would be an outstanding participant that would reap the knowledge and benefits of the conference because he is a proven 'leader of leaders.'"

Smith's passion for the breed and its membership extends to the national level as he currently serves on the executive committee for the 2019 NJAS in addition to his service on the NJAS grounds committee in previous years. He is an active member of the NCBA and participated in Cattlemen's Boot Camp in Saint Joseph, Mo.

"I am continually impressed by the exceptional young people like Henry Smith, who commit themselves to being visionaries in the Angus breed," says Rod Schoenbine, Angus Foundation director of development. "Every year, I am pleased to see the addition of young professionals in YCC, and Smith truly is a testament of the strong character and forward-thinking skills that make up the program." 



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