

YOUR VIEW

by Ellie Kidwell, Miss American Angus



Fresh Faces

At any Angus event, around every corner, there's a familiar face. As Angus cattle people, we are no strangers to seeing familiar faces everywhere we go, but fresh faces are also something we can find around just about every corner.

At one time, nearly everyone I saw at an Angus event was a stranger. I started getting more involved in the Angus industry in 2016, when I attended my first Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show in Harrisburg, Pa.

Since then, I have gotten so much more involved. I have attended many other shows, Angus Convention, LEAD conferences and much more. Every time I attended one of these events, I would see new faces all around me.

Honestly, at first, this was not my favorite feeling in the world. Eventually though, I began to see the beauty in it. All around me were people who shared the same passion.

I came to realize they were people who I could be myself around. Seeing fresh faces has gradually become something I look forward to rather than dread, because I look forward to seeing all of those new people I meet at the next Angus event I attend.

Interacting and making friends in the Angus family has become one of my favorite parts of being involved in the Angus industry. It may sound cheesy, but I truly mean it when I

say I have made many of my lifelong friends in this industry. The exciting reality is no matter how many of those fresh faces become familiar faces, there will always be new friends to make in our industry.

Even if you think you know everyone in this industry, and there are no new people for you to meet, let me prove you wrong. Every year we are blessed with thousands of fresh faces to meet, thanks to those trusty cows out in our pastures.


Year-round, new calves are hitting the ground around the world.

For me, one of my greatest joys is going to the pasture in the spring to get to know all of my new calves for the year. The calves grow and change, come to the barn, and begin their show careers. We see the subtle changes in our show calves as they grow and develop, but we will always look forward to seeing their familiar faces in the barn every day.

As the new Miss American Angus, I may be a fresh face to many, but I know as the year continues, I will continue to meet so many new members of my Angus family. I look forward to every show where I know

with certainty I will get to know someone else, whether that be the judge, juniors or even parents on the sidelines. I hope my face becomes one of familiarity to all of those involved with the Angus breed.

Wherever you see fresh faces, see it as an opportunity to make friends and to add some more familiar faces to your Angus family. Meeting new people and knowing old friends will occur not only within our industry, but throughout our lives.

As we go out in the world, let us remember all of those who were once fresh faces to us, cherish the relationships we have built from those first encounters and appreciate where we are today with all of the familiar faces that surround us. 

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