

Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights

What an opportunity!

As I write my last postcard before my term on the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Board of Directors expires, I can't help but reminisce on all the great times I have had.



Allison Porter

This truly has been the opportunity of a lifetime, an experience better than I ever could have imagined. I cannot even begin to tell you all the wonderful opportunities that I have experienced,

the lessons I have learned or the skills I have gained while serving on the NJAA Board.

As a farewell, I want to leave you with a few encouraging words of advice.

First, I encourage you to take advantage of every leadership opportunity. This builds drive and inspires self-confidence. I truly believe the basis of leadership is learning from experience. The NJAA is an organization that is committed to providing its members with opportunities to learn through experience. Some of these opportunities include contests, such as public speaking or team sales at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), and attending a state, regional or national Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference.

I also encourage each of you to *know thyself*—one of the most difficult tasks that any of us ever will face. Until you truly know your strengths and weaknesses, what you want to do with your life and why you want to do it, you cannot succeed. Independence is an important part of knowing yourself. You must explore your own depths, test

yourself, then reflect on your experiences. Once you know what you consist of and what you want to make of yourself, you can set your goals.

Last, I have discovered that sometimes it is not whether you reach your goal that is the most important, but rather what you learn on your journey.

What I remember now as I look back on my time in the NJAA is not the blue ribbons or trophies, but how the experiences and the wonderful people I met contributed to who I am today. I learned how to handle pressure, to work through hardships and to balance my time. I learned that the friendships that develop in an organization will last a lifetime.

I also have realized how many people have helped me along my journey and are due a tremendous amount of credit. I could not have made it this far without the encouragement of my family, friends, other Board members, Association staff and many others. Things as simple as a smile, hug or word of encouragement go such a long way.

As I am signing off, I would like to say thank you for such a wonderful opportunity. I would like to leave you with one of my favorite quotes, "The Optimist Creed."

— Allison Porter, Jefferson, Ga.

Promise Yourself

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

—Christian D. Larson

NJAA Board of Directors

TERMS UP IN 2002

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► Southwestern Wisconsin Angus Classic, Lancaster



► Top junior showmen are (from left) **Kelli Retallick**, Glen Haven, first; **Cody Strese**, Concord, second; and **Samantha Jackson**, Fennimore, third.



► Top intermediate showmen are (from left) **Ashley Tonkin**, Mineral Point, first; **Katie Jensen**, North English, Iowa, second; and **Kelsi Retallick**, Glen Haven, third.



► Top senior showmen are (from left) **Keela Retallick**, Glen Haven, third; **Joseph Mason**, Glen Haven, second; and **Cara Claussen**, Stockton, Iowa, first.

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▶ California Junior Angus Ass'n Field Day, Chowchilla

▶ Angus enthusiasts who will serve as officers for the California Junior Angus Ass'n are (from left) **Amanda Schnoor**, Chowchilla, vice president; **Austin Perry**, Clovis, reporter; **Ryan Burnthorne**, Merced, historian; **Bobbi Harmony**, Pleasant Grove, president; **Kirbe Schnoor**, Chowchilla, secretary; and **Joseph Amaral**, Modesto, treasurer.



▶ California Angus royalty are (from left) **Jessica Hord**, Acampo, princess; **Bobbi Harmony**, Pleasant Grove, queen; and **Kirbe Schnoor**, Chowchilla, princess.

▶ Iowa Angus Preview Show, Boone

▶ Directors of the Iowa Junior Angus Ass'n are (front row, from left) **Chance Sullivan**, Saint Charles; **Wesley Ruby**, Greene; **Julie Weaver**, Harlan; **Amanda Wical**, Grundy Center; **Amanda Hensley**, Dow City; **Travis Eggman**, Creston; **Justin Wilkins**, Bennett; (back row, from left) **Cody Sullivan**, Saint Charles; **Zebadiah Gray**, Toledo; **Patrick Driscoll**, Williamsburg; **Casey Purdum**, Kent; **Troy Schermer**, Clarion; **Lisa Stream**, Chariton; and **Josiah Paulsrud**, Danbury.



▶ **Abby Janssen** (right), Bloomfield, receives her Silver Award from Shelia Stannard, American Angus Association assistant director of public relations.



▶ **Amanda Wical** (right), Grundy Center, receives her Bronze and Silver awards from Shelia Stannard.



▶ Officers of the Iowa Junior Angus Ass'n are (from left) **Drew Schroeder**, Clarence, treasurer; **Craig Moffitt**, Colfax, second vice president; **Jason Schroeder**, Clarence, first vice president; **Abby Janssen**, Bloomfield, secretary; **Brittnia Carlson**, Cherokee, president; and **Denae Leonard**, Holstein, historian.

▶ Kansas Junior Angus Preview Show, Hutchinson



▶ **Garrett Lampe** (left), Scott City, and **John McCurry**, Burrton, won the junior challenge and premier exhibitor awards, respectively.



▶ Officers of the Kansas Junior Angus Ass'n are (front row, from left) **Abby Rayl**, Hutchinson, treasurer; **Garrett Lampe**, Scott City, secretary; **Emily McCurry**, Burrton, vice president; **Heather Hopper**, Leonardville, president; **Jeana Sankey**, Council Grove, president-elect; **Clayton Lampe**, Scott City, reporter; and **Flinton McCabe**, Elk City, membership director. Directors are (back row, from left) **Chelsea Dickinson**, Glasco; **Jake Betts**, Dorrance; **Heath Bergkamp**, Arlington; **John McCurry**, Burrton, ex officio member; and **Raymond Sproul**, McLouth.