



Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights

Lessons learned are the greatest awards

My room at home is filled with many trophies, plaques, ribbons and other awards that I have received over my show years. As the dust has accumulated, silver bowls have tarnished and I have gotten older, I have come to the realization that the most important awards that I have cannot be hung on a wall or set on a shelf. My greatest awards are the many life lessons I have learned through my show career that I will take with me for the rest of my life. Some of these lessons did not come easy and may have been unpleasant at the time, but they have made me a stronger individual in the long run.

Lesson 1: Hard work pays off. I am fortunate to have grown up in a rural community where my family was involved in farming long before I was born. I learned how to operate equipment long before I was licensed to drive a vehicle. While my friends were out shopping or going to the movies, I was outside baling hay, working cattle or

doing whatever chores needed to be done around the farm. I now appreciate the fact that my parents wanted me to know the value of hard work and dedication in completing a task. This lesson is one that has not only deepened my respect for everyone involved in production agriculture, but has also allowed me to

always give my all in any task that I face.

Lesson 2: The National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) is more than a cattle show. My family's first national show was in Wichita, Kan., in 1993 and we have attended every national since then. My cattle have placed respectably over the years. However, the highest placings that I have received have come from the many other

contests that I participated in. These contests allow exhibitors, like myself, who may not have that showing champion to receive championship recognition anyway.

My participation at nationals showed me the National Junior Angus Association

"It's not what happens to us, but what happens in us that supremely counts. Whenever we conquer our fears, whenever we do with love and courage the things we have to do, then no matter what the results may seem to be at the time, we are victorious and we are counted as those who have been a success."

— Dale E. Turner



Lana Myers

forward to seeing these old friends, as well as to meeting many new friends that I would never meet were it not for the NJAA.

Lesson 3: Opportunity is the first step to success. Showing cattle allowed me to build up my own herd by breeding my show heifers.

As my herd grew, I was able to compete in the bred-and-owned division, allowing me to determine how my herd fared against cattle from around the country. Now that my junior membership has ended, I am able to offer calves to area juniors who would not have the opportunity otherwise. My family lends a helping hand and answers any questions that the young exhibitors may have. This creates visibility for my herd. More importantly, it allows junior exhibitors to become more involved with the Angus breed while learning the significance of sportsmanship, showmanship and other life skills.

Lesson 4: Believe in yourself, first and most. My experiences in the NJAA were so instrumental in my life that I felt it was important to give back to the Association. I took that step by running for the junior board in 2000; however, I was unsuccessful. I was very disappointed, but through words of encouragement from family and friends, I decided to run again last summer. My loss that first year not only showed me what I needed to improve on, but also helped me to find the self-confidence I did not have before that time. Looking back, I now realize why people say that nothing worthwhile comes easy.

These lessons of hard work, friendship, opportunity and self-confidence were all instrumental in my personal development. Each one of us has to journey through life, facing difficulties along the way. These hard times only make the good times brighter and our success sweeter. The knowledge that is gained through these times will last long after the material awards have faded.

— Lana Myers, Jennings, La.

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► **Mississippi Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting and Banquet**, Raymond, May 3



► **Trey Brower** (center), Water Valley, received a scholarship from the Mississippi Angus Auxiliary. **Melanie Kiani** (left) and **Sheri Franks** presented the award.

► **Utah Angus Field Day**, Cedar City, May 4



► Officers of the Utah Junior Angus Ass'n are (from left) **Dusty Miller**, Cedar Fort, president; **Jackie Bennett**, Elmo, vice president; and **Daniel Aiken**, Cedar City, secretary-treasurer.

Junior deadlines for the fall

Sept. 20: Entry deadline for the American Royal junior Angus show.

Oct. 1: Entry deadline for the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) junior Angus show.

Nov. 1: Ownership deadline for the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) junior Angus show.

► **Oklahoma Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting and Banquet**, Stillwater, May 3



► The Oklahoma Angus Ass'n presented **Elana Switzer** (left), Leedey, with its Outstanding Junior Award. **John Pfeiffer Jr.** presented the award.



► Oklahoma Angus royalty are (from left) **Kelly Penner**, Mill Creek, 2002 Oklahoma Angus Queen; and **Kelli Armbruster**, Burlington, 2001 Oklahoma Angus Queen.



► **Kelli Armbruster** (left), Burlington, received the Oklahoma Angus Auxiliary scholarship. **Gaye Pfeiffer** presented the award.

► **Southwest Wisconsin Angus Classic Preview Show**, Lancaster, May 26



► Named top junior showmen are (from left) **Kelli Retallick**, Glen Haven, first; **Kayla Nelson**, Mabel, Minn., second; and **Brock May**, Mineral Point, third.



► Named top intermediate showmen are (from left) **Ashley Tonkin**, Mineral Point, first; **Glen Mommsen**, DeWitt, Iowa, second; and **Courtney Jentz**, Fennimore, third.



► Named top senior showmen are (from left) **Ryan Goehring**, Fredonia, first; **Matthew Nelson**, Mabel, Minn., second; and **Joseph Mason**, Glen Haven, third.

► **Alabama Angus Ass'n Field Day and Junior Angus Preview Show**, New Market, June 1



► **Left:** Alabama Angus Royalty are (from left) **Jessica Reeves**, Slocomb, 2001 Alabama Angus Queen; **Kindra Wood**, Holly Pond, 2002 Alabama Angus Queen; and **Amie Hill**, Holly Pond, 2002 Alabama Angus Princess.

► **Right:** Voting delegates and alternates to the NJAA Annual Meeting in Milwaukee, Wis., this summer are (from left) **Kindra Wood**, Holly Pond, delegate; **Jessica Reeves**, Slocomb, delegate; **Meghan Hill**, Holly Pond, alternate; and **Russell Behler**, Notasulga, alternate.



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▶ Alabama Angus Ass'n Field Day and Junior Angus Preview Show (CONTINUED)



▶ The Alabama Junior Angus Ass'n board of directors are (kneeling, from left) **Callie Rutherford**, Town Creek; **John Starnes**, Prattville; **Amanda Pangburn**, Albertville; **Blake Shropshire**, Thorsby; (standing, from left) **Cobie Rutherford**, Town Creek, president; **Russell Behler**, Notasulga, vice president; **Kindra Wood**, Holly Pond, secretary-treasurer; **Meghan Hill**, Holly Pond, reporter; and **Jessica Reeves**, Slocomb, director.



▶ Photography and poster contest winners are (from left) **Tyler Wood**, Holly Pond, first in photography and second in poster; and **Kindra Wood**, Holly Pond, first in poster and second in photography.



▶ The Alabama Angus Auxiliary awarded **Cobie Rutherford** (right), Town Creek, their scholarship. Karen Hill presented the award.



▶ **Cobie Rutherford** (left), Town Creek, was presented with the Richard Dyar scholarship. Dyar presented the award.

▶ Nebraska Junior Angus Show, Crawford, June 8-9

▶ Officers and directors of the Nebraska Junior Angus Ass'n are (seated, from left) **Jake Tiedeman**, North Platte, president; **Tyler Hartwell**, Oakland, first vice president; **Kent Nelson**, Ansley, second vice president; and **Samantha Harl**, Hastings, secretary-treasurer; (standing, from left) **Emily Pohlman**, Norfolk, director; **Kenny Prinz**, Nickerson, director; **Colt Gray**, Harrison, director; and **Ashley Wagner**, Genoa, historian.



▶ **Naomi Gray** (right), Harrison, received her NJAA Bronze and Silver awards from Jessica Sawyer, NJAA membership director.

▶ Missouri Junior Angus Preview Show, Sedalia, June 7-8

▶ Missouri Angus royalty are (from left) 2001-2002 Missouri Angus Princess **Mallo-ry Trospen**, Hamilton; 2002-2003 Missouri Angus Queen **Hope Herd**, Fair Grove; and 2001-2002 Missouri Angus Queen **Laura Main**, Macon.



▶ Scholarship winners at the Nebraska Junior Angus Show are (from left) **Kent Nelson**, Ansley; **Kyla Meyer**, Fremont; **Jessica Sawyer**, Bassett; and **Jake Tiedeman**, North Platte.



▶ **Emily Pohlman**, Norfolk, is the 2002 Nebraska Angus Queen.

