

by Julie Mais
Editor



Celebrating 100 years

My favorite piece of property in all the earth is this stretch of pasture on the eastern side of a long, sweeping Missouri hill. Cattle graze in the mornings, and find shade mid-day under trees along an old fence row.

The “square pond” at the bottom of that hill has provided prosperity and disappointment from hours of fishing. I’ve witnessed sunsets over oceans, mountains and in foreign countries – yet watching the evening sun sink over that hill remains at the top of my list.

That hill once belonged to my great-grandpa. My grandpa was the next caretaker in line, then my mom and then maybe my siblings and I one day will take on that role.

“Why, land is the only thing in the world worth workin’ for, worth fightin’ for, worth dyin’ for, because it’s the only thing that lasts,” Gerald O’Hara tells his daughter Scarlett while looking over their vast plantation, Tara, in the movie *Gone With the Wind*.

He knew the land would remain far past his lifetime. And, that land owners are just caretakers for that small mark in time — you care for it in the time you have it and then you pass it on.

On Aug. 10, 1919, the first issue of *The Aberdeen-Angus Journal* hit the press in Webster City, Iowa. In 1979, the American Angus Association purchased the publication, and what’s now the *Angus Journal* continues to be the leading magazine for the organization and its members.

This month we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the *Angus Journal*. For 100 years this magazine has been a publication for you, the Angus breeder and Angus enthusiast.

I congratulate the Angus breed for this amazing achievement. And I thank the advertisers and subscribers who allow us to bring this publication to your mailbox each month.

In this issue

We have dusted off the *Angus Journal* archives and flipped through pages in history to share with you its storied past. Take a stroll back in time to learn about the *Angus Journal*’s deep roots and brave steps into the future.

This issue’s theme is “Setting the Pace,” and in the pages that follow are examples of breeders and programs doing just that.

I also sat down with new Association CEO Mark McCully who shares about his unique perspective of the beef cattle industry and what he sees as the Angus breed’s role in its future moving forward.

Caretakers

It’s been just a year since I have been immersed in the Angus breed, and I feel extremely honored to be

part of a publication so well read and well respected.

However, I am just one of many, many staff members over the past 10 decades who have been caretakers of this publication for Angus breeders.

Those before me have labored over each word and every drop of ink on the pages of more than 1,300 issues dedicated to Angus cattle and the beef industry. If it wasn’t for those caretakers, coupled with the trust of advertisers and readers, this publication wouldn’t be the industry leading, member driven success that it is today.

Cheers to another 100 years. 

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie". The script is cursive and elegant.

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