

Compiled by Megan Silveira,  
assistant editor

POSTCARD FROM A JUNIOR



Cutter Pohlman

## Leveling up

*Make sure you're "Leveling Up" by getting the most out of your National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) experience!*

"Knowledge is power, and it can help you overcome any fear of the unexpected. When you learn, you gain more awareness through the process, and you know what pitfalls to look for as you get ready to transition to the next level." — Jay Shetty

There are many educational opportunities offered to junior Angus members through both the NJAA and the American Angus Association. These experiences include all the contests hosted at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference, Raising the Bar conference, Angus Convention and much more. Participating in these events will allow you as a junior to gain loads of industry knowledge and leadership skills.

The competitive contests offered through the NJAA provide you, our members, an opportunity to enhance your education and gain knowledge about the Angus breed and beef industry. These opportunities can help you think on your feet and gain professional skills through participation. I looked forward to competing in both individual and team contests each year at our national show.

With all the options available for participation, you can find contests that fit your interests, or step

outside of your comfort zone and try something new.

Contests offered at the NJAS include the *Angus Journal*/NJAA Photography Contest, Auxiliary-sponsored All-American *Certified Angus Beef* (CAB) Cook-off, Graphic Design Contest, Writing Contest, Beef Science Poster Contest, Public Speaking Contest, Career Development Contest, Extemporaneous Public Speaking Contest, Cattle Judging Contest, Skill-a-thon Contest, Overall Stockman's Contest, Team Sales Competition, Team Fitting Competition, Quiz Bowl and virtual coloring contest. Back by popular demand, the Auctioneering Contest was offered again this year.

Additionally, the conferences offered will allow you to gain valuable industry knowledge and give you opportunities to develop connections with other Angus breeders and industry leaders.

The LEAD conference travels to a different location every year and is a great opportunity to see other Angus operations across the country, develop leadership skills with your Angus peers, and broaden your horizons by visiting companies and industries that may not be related to Angus or agriculture at all.

Don't miss out on the Raising

the Bar conference, as it focuses on learning what different leading agricultural colleges offer and their unique contributions to agricultural industries in their area and globally. This conference specifically allows you to better explore your options before finding the university that best meets your career goals.

Finally, the Angus Convention is a great event to attend as this is an excellent opportunity to network with many companies and industry leaders at their trade show. Also, this convention showcases new research and technologies, programs, and services offered through our breed association.

I would like to encourage you to "Up Your Game" though your participation in NJAA activities, so go after that knowledge today.

For contest and conference information, visit [www.NJAA.info](http://www.NJAA.info). After exploring your options, sign up for events that fit your interests and prepare to get the most out of these opportunities. Let the NJAA help you transition to the next level!

— Cutter Pohlman

## Bronze and Silver Awards

Dalton Birdwell, Bryson, Texas; Kaylan Kiser, Proctor, Texas; Drew Mickey, Taylorville, Ill.; and Ashlyn Mool, Lexington, Ill., have earned the National Junior Angus Association's (NJAA) Bronze and Silver awards, according to Caitlyn Brandt, events and education director of the American Angus Association in Saint Joseph, Mo. Jackson McCurry, Colwich, Kan., earned the NJAA's Bronze award.

The Bronze and Silver awards are the first two levels of the NJAA Recognition Program that began in 1972. Junior Angus breeders must apply for the awards, then meet point requirements in many areas of participation before receiving the honors. Applicants are evaluated in areas of junior Angus association activities and leadership, participation in showmanship, contests and shows, using performance testing to improve their herd, and their progress in producing and merchandising Angus cattle.

From Bryson, Texas, **Dalton Birdwell** is the 16-year-old son of Henry and Sheila Birdwell. He currently attends Bryson ISD and is a member of the NJAA and the Texas Junior Angus Association (TJAA).

Beyond the local and state level, Birdwell has also shown at the national level including the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). There he has competed in the livestock judging, Skill-a-thon and auctioneering contests and the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American Certified Angus Beef (CAB) Cook-off. He has also attended the Angus Convention.

Proctor, Texas, local, **Kaylan Kiser**, is 16 years old. She is the daughter of Aaron Kiser and attends Dublin High School. An active NJAA member,

## Ohio Angus Ass'n Preview Show, June 12, Zanesville



Elly Castello (center), Barnesville, Ohio, won herdsman of the year. Also pictured presenting are Mandy Rooker (left) and Kevin Rooker, judge.



Kristina Scheurman, Warsaw, Ohio, won premier exhibitor. Pictured (From left) are Kirk Scheurman, Kristina Schuerman, Mandy Rooker and Kevin Rooker.

## Missouri Angus Ass'n Preview Show, June 12, Sedalia



These juniors won top honors in their showmanship division. Pictured (from left) are Ella Jordan, Savannah, senior champion; Sache Dowling, Fair Grove, intermediate champion; Faith Williams, Rhineland, reserve intermediate champion; Jace Pipkin, Republic, reserve junior champion; and Cinch Dowling, Fair Grove, junior champion.



These juniors qualified to represent Missouri at the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest. Pictured (from left) are Garrett Schuering, Thompson, alternate; Grace Busch, Saint James, qualifier; Olivia Gerloff, Bland, qualifier; and Allena Allen, Galt, alternate.

## Missouri Junior Angus Preview Show, June 11, Sedalia



These junior members won top honors in their showmanship divisions. Pictured (from left) are Cinch Dowling, Fair Grove, junior champion; Annaliese Mead, Barnett, intermediate champion; and Sophia Sweeny, Kansas City, senior champion.

Continued on page 240

Kiser also is a part of the TJAA.

Kiser has shown at the local, state and national level. In addition to the NJAS photography contest, Kiser has attended the Angus Convention and submitted weight data to the Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®).

**Drew Mickey** is from Taylorville, Ill. He is Jon and Carla Mickey's 16-year-old son and attends Taylorville High School. Mickey is a member of the NJAA and the Illinois Junior Angus Association (IJAA).

At the NJAS, Mickey has participated in the auctioneering,

photography and career development contests. He has also attended the Raising the Bar conference.

Iowa State University student **Ashlyn Mool** is studying agriculture business and is from Lexington, Ill. She is the 20-year-old daughter of David Mool. As a member of both the NJAA and the IJAA, she has served her state as director.

Mool has shown at all levels, including national. At the NJAS, she has participated in quiz bowl contest and the Cook-off. She has previously participated in the mentoring

program and the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference.

**Jackson McCurry** is Rhonda McCurry's 15-year-old son. The Colwich, Kan., local attends Andale High School. He is actively involved in the NJAA and the Kansas Junior Angus Association, where he has served as director.

McCurry's show ring experience includes local, state and national events. At the NJAS he has participated in the Cook-off and the mentoring program.

## Ohio Junior Angus Ass'n Preview Show, June 11, Zanesville



Winning top honors in the senior division of showmanship (from left) are Caroline Winter, Ashville, fourth; Elly Castello, Barnesville, third; Rylee Closser, Hebron, second; and Kristina Scheurman, Warsaw, first.



Winning top honors in the intermediate division of showmanship (from left) are Aubrey Bapst, Waverly, fourth; Josie Kidwell, Walhonding, third; Hannah Millikan, Napoleon, second; and Brayden Hayes, Graytown, first.



Winning top honors in the junior division of showmanship (from left) are Carrie Gahler, Graytown, fifth; Cade Videkovich, Ashville, fourth; Audrey Hoffman, Coshocton, third; Maggie Tomlinson, Newark, second; and Brianna Foxx, Hillsboro, first.



Kinsley Hoffman, Coshocton, won top honors in peewee showmanship.

## All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity Junior Show, June 11, Louisville

*Photos by Next Level Images, courtesy of American Angus Association.*



Winning top honors in their showmanship divisions (from left) are Chris Wojciechowski, judge; Ellee Marksbury, Buffalo, Ky., junior A champion; Emily Jeffries, Canmer, Ky., junior B champion; Lauren Wolter, Aviston, Ill., intermediate champion; and Kara LeBeouf, DeRidder, La., senior champion.



J. Gordon Clark (right), Gretna, Va., won premier breeder and premier junior breeder. Also pictured presenting is Mary Wood, Miss American Angus.



Adam McCauley (right), Cynthiana, Ky., won premier exhibitor. Also pictured presenting is Mary Wood.

## Iowa Angus Junior Preview Show, June 18, Iowa City



These junior members won top honors in the senior division of showmanship and qualified to represent Iowa at the National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest. Pictured (from left) are Shelby Greiman, Goodell, alternate; Mycah Weaver, Dougherty, qualifier; Walker McDermott, Wiota, qualifier; and Lexi Knapp, Bloomfield, alternate.



These junior members won top honors in the intermediate division of showmanship. Pictured (from left) are Lauren Phillips, Centerville, champion; and Madison Collison, Rockwell City, reserve champion.



These junior Angus members won top honors in the junior division of showmanship. Pictured (from left) are Callie Jensen, Plainfield, reserve champion; and Kyndall Burns, Oxford, champion.

## Eastern Regional Junior Angus Show, June 17-18, Chatham

*Photos by Next Level Images, courtesy of American Angus Association.*



Allison Davis (center), Shelbyville, Tenn., won premier breeder, premier exhibitor and premier junior breeder. Also pictured presenting is Mary Wood (left) and Brigham Stewart, judge.



Winning top honors in the senior division of showmanship (from left) are Mary Wood, presenting; Zach McCall, Greenville, Va., champion; Mattie Harward, Richfield, N.C., reserve champion; Ryan Borer, Buchanan, Va., third place; Hannah Davis, Winchester, Va., fourth place; and Lynae Bowman, Germantown, N.C., fifth place.



Winning top honors in the intermediate division of showmanship (from left) are Mary Wood, presenting; Ellie Taylor, Nashville, Ga., champion; Suter Clark, Gretna, Va., reserve champion; Remi Gardner, Paris, Tenn., third place; Alli Perry, Fayetteville, Tenn., fourth place; and Maddie Dean, Vienna, Ga., fifth place.



Winning top honors in junior B showmanship (from left) are Mary Wood, presenting; Sadie Poole, Staunton, Va., champion; Kady Harris, Staunton, Va., reserve champion; Ky Alford, Elberton, Ga., third place; Carrter Eavers, Middlebrook, Va., fourth place; and Ella Jane Michael, Fisherville, Va., fifth place.



Winning top honors in junior A showmanship (from left) are Mary Wood, presenting; Elizabeth Kendig, Chatham, Va., champion; Lona Sims, McEwen, Tenn., reserve champion; Teagan Johnston, Middlebrook, Va., third place; Sophie Salling, Orange, Va., fourth place; and Kelsey Widener, Johnson City, Tenn., fifth place.

## Pennsylvania Breeders' Junior Angus Show, June 23-24, Huntingdon



David Bell, Nottingham, won premier breeder in the junior show and premier exhibitor in the open show. Pictured (from left) are Tiffany Bell, Kaitlin Bell, David Bell and Dave Bell.



Winning top honors in their showmanship divisions (from left) are Kiersten Baker, James Creek, senior champion; David Bell, Nottingham, reserve senior champion; Madison Bowen, Centre Hall, intermediate champion; Zoey Baker, James Creek, reserve intermediate champion; Macey Fessler, Robesonia, reserve junior champion; Kinleigh Grim, Thomasville, junior champion; Matthew Butz, Reinholds, novice champion; Owen Jacobs, Millfintown, peewee champion; and Zach Bartenslager, judge. **AJ**