

# A Golden Opportunity

Presenting NJAA Recognition Program Gold Awards for 1995

**F**ifteen members of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) earned the coveted Gold Pin award in 1995. We would like to congratulate these young achievers, it's been an educational opportunity sure to lead them down the road to further opportunities in the beef industry.

We wish them success in future endeavors and hope to see them continue to take an active role in our industry as breeders and future leaders.

Outstanding NJAA members are recognized at several steps during their NJAA involvement. Gold Pins represent the culmination of several years, perhaps a decade, of work. Intermediate steps are the Bronze and Silver Pin awards.

Each level requires participation and achievement in leadership, show competition, performance testing, production, and merchandising of Angus cattle. To qualify for the Gold Pin award, NJAA members must have received Bronze and Silver recognition, then apply during their final year of eligibility as an NJAA member.

Complete and accurate records are vital when applying for any of these award programs. Contact the Junior Activities Department at the American Angus Association for further information on this program.



## ■ Suzanne Berry

Representing Alabama and the NJAA well, Suzanne Berry has been a member since 1984. She is the daughter of Bill and Jackie Berry of Ardmore, Ala.

Suzanne was an active member in the Alabama Junior Angus Association, serving as secretary-treasurer for five years and serving as president for three years. On the national level she was elected to the NJAA Board in Louisville, Ky., at the 1995 National

Junior Angus Show.

She is currently attending Calhoun Community College and studying agricultural business and marketing. She is also a veterinarian assistant at Berry Animal Hospital.

Her future goals are to find a job associated with agriculture and keep her Angus cattle as her hobby and her life.



## ■ John Bowyer

John Bowyer is the 20-year-old son of John and Ka-

ren Bowyer, Rio Verde, Ariz.

"I'm sorry it's over," John says about his activities with the NJAA and the Indiana Junior Angus Association. He served as director of the Indiana Junior Angus Association and received the Indiana Angus Association scholarship in 1993.

John is currently a junior at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls, majoring in animal science with a meat animal emphasis.

His career goals are to work with government supporting agriculture programs or teaching at the college level, and maintaining a small registered herd of registered Angus.



## ■ Wynn Dalton

Enthusiastic NJAA member Wynn Dalton, Altavista, Va., is the 20-year-old daughter of Douglas and Beverly Dalton.

Although she has only been a member since 1990 she has given her heart and shared her enthusiasm with the NJAA.

An active member in the Va Junior Angus Association, she has served as director, vice president and president. She also chaired the Atlantic National Junior Council in 1993 and 1994.

"It is my 'Angus Family' that has accepted me so readi-

ly," she says. "They bestowed upon me a gift that is so priceless in nature — an education."

Wynn will continue her education this fall at Kansas State University majoring in agricultural journalism. Her career goals are to continue in the livestock industry working for a livestock publication or an advertising firm.



## ■ Crystalline Gray

An NJAA member since 1982, Crystalline Gray has been active in Angus junior programs. She is the daughter of Charles Gray Jr., Cameron, Mo., and Penny Gray, Woodbury, Minn.

She was a member of the Minnesota and Missouri Junior Angus Associations, serving on boards in both states.

Crystalline was an active member in 4-H and FFA, serving in many leadership positions and winning several awards.

She is currently attending the University of Minnesota, St. Paul, studying agricultural industries and marketing. She is also a fire safety consultant for AKE Safety Equipment, where she educates the public on fires and personal safety issues.

In the future Crystalline plans to continue focusing on producing quality Angus cattle.



### Will Grote

Texas Junior Angus Association member, Will Grote, is the son of Pat and Glen Grote, Mason, Texas. A member since 1985, Will has been a strong NJAA and state leader.

He has served as president, 1st vice president, 2nd vice president and reporter of the TJAA and is currently the vice chairman of the NJAA Board.

Will was also active in 4-H and FFA, serving as a district and area FFA officer.

He will continue his education this fall at Texas A&M University, studying agricultural education and animal science.

Will hopes to continue his Angus herd while pursuing his career interests. "I want to be a spokesman for the beef industry and agriculture. We need to educate the public and we need to start in the schools," he says.



### Cindy Hooper

Dedicated NJAA and Idaho Junior Angus Association member, Cindy Hooper, has been a member since 1984. She is the daughter of Graham and Patty Hooper of Bliss, Idaho.

An active leader in both the Idaho and the Northwest Junior Angus Associations, she served as president of both organizations. She also served as the Western States and Idaho Angus Queen.

She will continue her education this fall at the University of Idaho majoring in animal science. Her career interests are meat science or genetic research.

Cindy hopes to continue her progressive herd of Angus, building it to more than 200 head and starting a small feedlot.



### Edward Kirby

An NJAA member since he was one year old, Eddie Kirby is the son of Wilford and Ellen Kirby Petersburg, W.Va.

Active in the West Virginia Junior Angus Association, Eddie served as president for three one-year terms. He was also active in 4H and FFA.

His Angus herd started in 1976 when his grandfather gave him his first heifer. Over the years Eddie has continued to increase his herd and hopes to continue as an Angus breeder after his years as a junior member.

Eddie attends Potomac State College where he is studying applied sciences and business. He hopes to work for or own his own business while continuing to raise Angus cattle.

### Ryan Kenneth Kregger

Raised on a diversified family farm, Ryan joined the NJAA in 1982.



The son of Chris and Lora Kregger, Touchet, Wash., he was active in 4-H and FFA. He won several FFA chapter and regional awards. He served as district FFA reporter and has received the American FFA degree.

Ryan purchased his first heifer when he was eight years old. Today that small herd of one female has increased to 30 Angus cows and four bulls.

Currently attending Cal Poly University majoring in agricultural business, Ryan hopes to return to the family farm after graduation.

Ryan learned a lot from his years of showing Angus. "No matter what color of ribbon you win in the show ring, by just participating you are a winner," he says.



### JoDawn Linn

Oklahoma Junior Angus Association member, JoDawn Linn, Red Rock, Okla., is an 11-year member of the NJAA.

The daughter of John Aaron and Burdetya Linn, she is attending Oklahoma State University majoring in agricultural education with a professional service option.

She has been active in 4-H,

the Oklahoma Junior Angus Association and the NJAA. She served two terms as president of the Oklahoma Junior Angus Association and was the national 4-H beef winner in 1990.

After graduation, JoDawn plans to become an agricultural Extension agent. "My perfect job would be to become a 4-H agent," she says.



### Jennifer Maurer

The fifth generation of her family to show cattle, Jennifer is the daughter of James and Linda Maurer, Lawler, Iowa.

Her successful beef program earned her the state 4-H beef award in 1992. She is currently serving as secretary of the Iowa Junior Angus Association and was the Iowa Angus Queen in 1992.

Jennifer's career plans after graduating from Iowa State University include working in international agriculture and becoming an agricultural lawyer.



### Scott Pohlman

A natural born farmer, Scott Pohlman plans to continue as an Angus producer.

"My parents tell stories of me cutting up my mother's

house plants for silage and trying to AI the cat with a bread sack over my arm when I was three years old," Scott says.

The son of Charles and Linda Pohlman, Norfolk, Neb., Scott will graduate from Northeast Community College in May of 1997 with a degree in animal science.

The Pohlman Farm consists of 350 acres of corn, soybeans, alfalfa and pasture, and 90 registered Angus cows and 10 commercial recipients. Scott has been showing Angus since he was eight, an activity the whole Pohlman Family participates in.

Scott purchased his first heifer when he was 13 and has continued to build his herd. A progressive Angus producer he is enrolled in Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) Program and uses artificial insemination.

An active individual, Scott has been a leader in his 4-H club, FFA chapter, the Nebraska Junior Angus Association and the NJAA.

"My greatest honor has been the privilege to serve on the NJAA Board of Directors," Scott says.

His educational plans are to continue working toward an animal science degree at Texas Tech University. Following college, he would like to work in agriculture sales or embryo transfer, and continue to build his Angus herd.



### Eric Schlutz

Continuing a 50-year tradition, Eric Schlutz wants to return to the family farm after

graduating from Oklahoma State University with a degree in animal science and business.

The son of Kevin and Connie Schlutz, Letts, Iowa, Eric has been an active member of the Iowa Junior Angus Association. He was co-chairman of the 1994 National Junior Angus Show held in Des Moines. He is currently serving as president of their junior association.

Eric has 15 cows that he runs with his family's DaEsRo Angus herd in Iowa. In return, he is active with his family's herd, assisting with Angus Herd Improvement Records, advertising and breeding decisions.

He wants to continue the tradition of producing quality Angus that perform on tank and on the rail.



### Jill Sommers

NJAA Board member Jill Sommers is the daughter of Richard and Sharon Sommers, Silver Lake, Ind.

"Since my first experience leading a calf at the age of three, I've been in love with Angus cattle," says Jill, an NJAA member since 1980.

Her love for the breed has given her many opportunities. She was Miss American Angus in 1994, is currently communications chairman for the NJAA Board and is the 1995 Indiana Junior Angus Association president.

Jill attends Purdue University where she is majoring in animal agribusiness. She hopes to someday have her own herd of Angus.

"I want to remain very active with the Angus Association, especially the NJAA, giving young kids a reason to smile and fall in love with Angus cattle the way I did," she says.



### Matthew Scott Watson

California native Matthew Watson became interested in Angus cattle when he joined 4-H and had a project steer.

The son of Mike and Dotty Watson, Eustace, Texas, Matthew purchased his first Angus heifer when he was 10. Through the years he has continued to increase his herd and now owns 29 cows.

Matthew attends Trinity Valley Community College where he is majoring in agricultural science. He plans to graduate in December 1995. While attending Trinity Valley, he has been the show captain and herdsman at the school ranch.

Upon graduation he plans to transfer to East Texas A&M and major in animal science.



### Lisa Wiedenhoef

Lisa Wiedenhoef, Watertown, Wis., started her beef

project in 1987 when she purchased her first Angus steer.

The daughter of Howard and Lois Wiedenhoef she has been a NJAA member since 1987.

"The challenge of learning something new has always been the key to the success of my livestock program," she says.

"I've also learned that the color of a ribbon doesn't really tell you what you have gained from a project," she says. "As I look back, I remember making a project, sharing what I learned with others and meeting new friends. The ribbons received are not what my memories are about."

Currently pursuing a degree in meat and animal science with international and business option at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, her goal is to promote the livestock and products she stands behind.

Her agricultural experiences and education have been further enhanced in her work as a youth program assistant for the University of Wisconsin Extension office of Jefferson County.

Lisa hopes that raising livestock will always be part of her future, but only time will tell. "I do know," she says, "the future holds a career for me in the livestock industry."

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