



Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights

Each NJAA member has a unique journey

The winding down of my junior Angus career, which has spanned more than a decade of my life, has inspired me to look back and reminisce, and to look ahead and dream. In doing so, I'm struck with one invaluable insight that applies to every junior member. Whether you're a recent addition to our Angus family, combing through your first *Angus Journal*, or an experienced junior member who has spent his or her lifetime in the Angus business, your time in the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) is your own unique experience. It will provide you with every opportunity that you ask of it.

NJAA members range from juniors who live and work each day on sprawling ranches and farms to juniors who return each night to a suburban home or apartment. The NJAA brings each of us together, enabling us to share a common experience. Despite our common experience, each and every junior member brings his or her own individual talents and abilities to the table. The dreams of junior members are as diverse as our backgrounds. The journeys that we make



Jennifer Beck

through the NJAA experience should be equally unique.

Understanding this, I have a challenge for each and every one of you. Face every day of your junior career as the next step in shaping you into the person that you dream of becoming. Embrace and encourage the differences in yourself and your fellow junior members. Be neither afraid nor ashamed of making the NJAA work for you. It is your organization, and you have the choice and the privilege of making your experience anything and everything that you want it to be. So, decide what you want to

get out of and give back to the NJAA, and run with it.

By the grace of God and the support of your families, you have been given the opportunity of a lifetime. Make every day of your junior involvement a life-enriching opportunity. In the end, I hope that you, as I do right now, will look back in awe and appreciation of the person that the NJAA has helped you become.

— Jennifer Beck, North Carolina

Scholarships available for range science students

Students interested in studying range management can apply for scholarship funds through the Society for Range Management (SRM). Each year SRM awards its Masonic-Range Science Scholarships to worthy students.

Applicants must be high school seniors, or college freshmen or sophomores planning to major in range science or a natural resource-related field. For more information or to apply, contact SRM at 445 Union Blvd., Suite 230, Lakewood, CO 80228; call (303) 986-3309 or visit them online at www.rangelands.org. The deadline to apply is Jan. 15, 2003.

Angus junior named National Beef Ambassador

Seth Malley, Bentonville, Ark., won the title of 2002 National Beef Ambassador at the national competition Nov. 7-9 in Orlando, Fla. The competition is funded by beef producers through their \$1-per-head checkoff and produced for the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board (CBB) and state beef councils by the American National CattleWomen Inc. (ANCW).

Twenty-two contestants from throughout the country vied for the national title and for \$4,500 in cash prizes distributed among the top three places, in addition to three scholarships totaling \$2,000 from the ANCW Foundation Inc. Malley received \$2,500 cash and a \$1,000 scholarship to the school of his choice.

NJAA member Wravenna Phipps, Kearney, Neb., won third place and received \$800 and a \$500 scholarship.

The purpose of the National Beef Ambassador Program is to train youth spokespersons for the beef industry. In preparation for the competition, contestants become knowledgeable about the nutritional and economic values, byproducts, food safety and versatile uses of beef. Trained youth ambassadors can address issues and misconceptions in schools, workplaces and in their communities. Each contestant who participated in the National Beef Ambassador competition presented a five-to eight-minute illustrated talk on the

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promotional aspects of beef, completed a mock interview with media and industry people, and participated in a hands-on beef education workshop.

Internships offered at Angus

The American Angus Association and the *Angus Journal*, with headquarters in Saint Joseph, Mo., will offer three summer internships to college students who want to learn more about breed association work. The paid internships begin approximately June 1, 2003, and conclude in mid-August. Application deadline is Feb. 15, 2003.

The Activities and Junior Activities Department employs a college sophomore, junior or senior to assist in the planning and execution of junior Angus shows and leadership events. The intern will have the opportunity to travel to and assist with the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) and the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference. The intern will be expected to perform daily in-office preparation for various junior activities, including correspondence and communication with others involved, such as the NJAA Board of Directors.

Applicants for the junior activities internship should have an ag-related major. They need to be detail-oriented, outgoing and a self-starter, and to have the ability to work well with all types of people. Students interested in the junior activities internship should send a résumé to James Fisher, director of junior activities.

The Association's Public Relations and Communications Department is looking for a junior or senior majoring in ag journalism or ag communications who has an interest in the livestock industry. Primary responsibilities of the position include publicizing Angus shows and activities, which includes writing news releases, photo cutlines and feature articles, and working with black-and-white and color photography. The intern will have the opportunity to travel to various shows and events.

Students who are interested in the public relations internship should have completed course work in newswriting and feature writing, as well as in editing and photography. The applicants should be detail-oriented, and have some experience with livestock shows. Send a résumé, cover letter and writing samples to Shelia Stannard, assistant director of communications and public relations.

Angus Productions Inc. (API) offers an

Angus Journal editorial internship to a college junior or senior who is pursuing a degree in ag journalism or ag communications. The intern works with the editorial staff and other API and Association staff members. The intern will assist with feature writing and newswriting, conduct on-farm interviews, report on Angus events and beef industry seminars, and have the opportunity to enhance his or her photography skills.

Applicants should have experience with livestock and should have completed the following courses: Reporting I and II, editing, magazine writing or creative writing, photography or photojournalism. Knowledge of Microsoft Word and/or Quark Xpress are also helpful. Interested students should send a résumé and writing samples to Shauna Hermel, editor of the *Angus Journal*.

All résumés should be sent to the appropriate person listed above at the American Angus Association, 3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO, 64506. Any students wanting more information can contact Fisher, Stannard or Hermel at (816) 383-5100.

"Mountain Moo" theme for 2003 Eastern Regional

West Virginia Junior Angus Association (WVJAA) members are in the final fund-raising stages for the 2003 Eastern Regional scheduled for June 20-22 at the West Virginia State Fairgrounds.

▶ 2002 Eastern States Exposition Angus Show, West Springfield, Mass., Sept. 26



▶ **Jessica Couto** (left), Middletown, R.I., won premier exhibitor and senior champion showman.

Angus Topics publisher Ernie Bingman donated a full-page, four-color ad in the magazine to be purchased, with proceeds donated to the 2003 Eastern Regional.

Fox Cross Farm, Alderson, W.Va., has donated a May 2002 heifer from the TC Pride family to be raffled at the 2003 Eastern Regional. Only 100 tickets will be sold for \$100 each, giving each ticket a one in 100 chance of winning. Call Krista Hayes at (304) 735-3511 or Tim Fitzgerald at (304) 445-2697 to purchase tickets.

For information on the show, as well as on other fund-raising projects the WVJAA have in store, logon to www.angusjournal.com/2003easternregional.



Florida junior takes the reins to promote Angus

Angus promotion is important to National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) member Brittany Peacock, Marianna, Fla. She rode her horse and carried the Angus flag in the parade at a local fall festival celebration. After the parade she set up a booth to promote the breed and to inform the community about the Florida Junior Angus Association (FJAA). She wanted to show that there is more to the FJAA than just showing cattle.



▶ **Brittany Peacock** has had a lot of support from her family and friends at Rainbow Angus, Ashford, Ala. Their support has allowed her to promote the Angus breed by riding in parades and showing some of the benefits the junior association has offered her.



▶ Peacock promoted the Florida Junior Angus Association by setting up a booth at a local fall festival and having her heifer at the event for people to view. Her display drew a crowd.