



Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights

Have a little goose sense

This fall, when you see geese heading south for the winter — flying in a “V” formation — you might consider what science has discovered as to why they fly that way.

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplifting wind current for the bird immediately following. By flying in a “V” formation, the whole flock has at least 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.

People who share a common direction and a sense of community can get where they are going more quickly and easily because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to do it alone — and it quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird in front. If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed the same way we are.

When the head goose gets tired, it rotates back in the wing, and another goose flies point. It is sensible to take turns doing demanding jobs — with people or with geese flying south. Geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed. What do we honk from behind?

Finally, and this is important, when a goose gets sick or wounded by a gunshot and falls out of formation, two other geese will fall out with that goose and follow it down to lend help or protection. They will stay with the fallen goose until it is able to fly or until it dies; and only then do they launch out on their own or with another formation, to catch up with their flock. If we have the sense of a goose, we will stand by each other like that.

— Author unknown

We, as humans, can learn many lessons from geese. First, by sharing the same direction and purpose, we can get to where we are going more quickly. Whether we are on a sports team, working on a student council project or leading our state associations, we are more likely to get the job done if we work together.

Second, geese show us that shared leadership gives us a chance to lead, as well as an opportunity to rest. Even great leaders need a break now and then, and it is comforting to know that you can count on others to help take the lead.

Third, we need to make sure that our ‘honking’ is encouraging, not discouraging. We need to be the motivators and cheerleaders for the people with whom we work because being positive makes the task fun and enjoyable.

And finally, geese teach us that we must stand by our family, friends and colleagues



Jennifer Ourso

in difficult times as well as in good. Surprisingly, you really can learn a lot from a goose.

We all have people in our lives who practice the ways of geese. Those people are the ones who guide us in the right direction, encourage us to never give up, give us breaks when we need them and stand by us no matter the cost.

Quite often, though, we get so caught up in our own excitement, fame and accomplishments that we forget how we actually got to the positions we are in today. We forget to say what I think can be two of the most important and meaningful words — “Thank you.” So take the time to acknowledge those people in your life who take on the role of a goose. Whether it’s your parents, grandparents, teachers, friends or anyone else, take the time to say thank you and show them how much you appreciate what they have done for you.

— Jennifer Ourso, Louisiana

► 2003 Iowa State Fair Angus Show, Aug. 12, Des Moines



► Landi McFarland (left), Ellston, was crowned the 2003-04 Iowa Angus Queen. Lisa Stream, Chariton, retiring queen, is also pictured.

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NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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▶ NEXT GENERATION

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▶ 2003 Oregon State Fair Junior Angus Show, Aug. 23, Salem



▶ Oregon Junior Angus Ass'n leaders for the coming year are (from left) **Tessa Crawford**, Powell Butte, president; **Amanda Owings**, Powell Butte, vice president; and **Drew Van Roekel**, North Plains, secretary.

▶ Utah State Fair Junior Angus Show, Sept. 9, Salt Lake City

▶ **Jenny Aiken**, Cedar City, was crowned the Utah Angus Queen.



Beartooth Ranch heifer headlines Angus Foundation Heifer Package

Beartooth Ranch, Columbus, Mont., will donate one of its outstanding heifers to headline the 2004 Angus Foundation Heifer Package. The package will sell at the 2004 National Western Stock Show (NWSS), and all proceeds from the sale go directly to the Angus Foundation, which supports youth, education and research.

The sale of the package will begin the 2004 National Western Angus Bull Sale, set for 2 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 15 in the Beef Palace Auction Arena at the National Western Complex in Denver, Colo.

The package includes BT Everelda Entense 51N, a January 2003 daughter of Twin Valley Precision E161.

In addition to the heifer, the buyer receives 30 days of free insurance from American Live Stock Insurance Co., Geneva, Ill.; free transportation to the buyer's farm or ranch provided by Lathrop Livestock Transportation, Dundee, Ill.; a flush and three embryo implants into the buyer's recipient cows from Trans Ova Genetics, Sioux Center, Iowa; Ivomec® provided by Merial; an Angus Information Management Software (AIMS) Package from the American Angus Association AIMS Department; and a banner ad from the Angus Productions Inc. (API) Web Marketing Department. Other items, to be announced later, may be added to the package.

"The generosity of Beartooth Ranch is greatly appreciated," says James Fisher, American Angus Association director of activities and junior activities. "Beartooth Ranch is donating a very complete heifer with outstanding genetics."

For more information about the Angus Foundation Heifer Package or other ways you can contribute to the Angus Foundation, visit www.angusfoundation.org, contact the Association at (816) 383-5100 or visit any regional manager.



BT Everelda Entense 51N

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| #GAR Precision 1680 | #Tehama Bando 155 |
| Twin Valley Precision E161 | 9J9 GAR 856 |
| +WCC Blackcap C9 | #SS Traveler 6T6 |
| | Premier Blackcap 6276A |
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