

by Julie Mais  
Editor



## Opportunity and overalls

*On a recent drive north from my home in eastern Kansas and through southeast Nebraska, I was in the thick of harvest season. The crops seemed to crowd the farmhouses and rural roads — in the spring, corn and soybeans were planted in every nook and cranny of the gently rolling hills.*

Combines were cruising and grain carts were trailing in the field. Traffic slowed down as the line of cars waited for a truck hauling corn to turn left to the local grain elevator.

Growing up as a farm kid, I remember this season fondly. It's all hands on deck. Every minute matters when the weather cooperates and the crops are ready.

I'm fortunate to have been raised in the agricultural community where hard work is not only rewarded, it's expected. Now I'm proud to work for Angus breeders who exemplify this same ethic.

While visiting with American Angus Association President David Dal Porto, I asked him a simple question: What is your favorite part about raising Angus cattle?

On the surface his answer was

equally as simple — researching bulls, mating them to cows to improve their progeny where needed and to accentuate their positive traits.

He adds, "I really like seeing that mating hit the ground ... they're nine months apart, and it takes a while to get there. I really enjoy that."


To wait 283 days to see if your hard work and hours of research pay off, along with the daily care of the herd, speaks of the character and work ethic of an Angus breeder.

The November *Angus Journal*, "Fruits of Labor," recognizes and celebrates the day-to-day toil for the hope of a better future.

In this issue we feature the hard work of Angus breeders who find opportunities each day for their families and the industry. Turn to Page 32 for "President's Perspective"

to read more from that conversation with David Dal Porto.

We include some industry updates from the recent Feeding Quality Forum, and introduce Powered by Angus<sup>SM</sup> and what this logo means to you and your customers.

When I think of "Fruits of Labor," I'm reminded of this popular saying by Thomas A. Edison, "Opportunity is often missed because it comes dressed in overalls and looks like work." As we enter a season of thanksgiving, let us remember to be grateful for the harvest. 

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julie".

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