

FOUNDATION IN FOCUS

by Thomas Marten
Angus Foundation executive director



Brightening the path

Your Angus Fund gift is a lot like a beacon — useful for a variety of purposes. They can communicate across long distances, give light and offer guidance to travelers on how to navigate to their destination.

For the Angus Foundation, you and your giving serve as a sort of beacon, a guidepost to achieving the promise of our mission.

Making your gift signals and demonstrates your commitment to building a brighter future for the breed.

There is no clearer way to accomplish this than through your unrestricted support of the Angus Fund. Through this fund, the Angus Foundation is able to cover our operations and core mission areas. In fact, your Angus Fund gift:

- Funds academic scholarships to encourage our Angus youth in their studies. This includes a large number of scholarships for our actively involved junior members, as well as scholarships for youth from a commercial background using registered Angus sires or dams.
- Sponsors leadership programs like Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD), Raising the Bar and State Training Angus Retreat (STAR) conferences, which equip Angus juniors with skills and experiences to lead our breed

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and rural communities today and throughout their careers.

- Provides educational training for Angus members through the Beef Leaders Institute, Young Cattlemen's Conference and Angus University.
- Fully funds the National Junior Angus

Board (NJAB), a top-notch experience where our juniors lead, mentor and inspire one another.

- Answers questions through cutting-edge research, with current grants to Kansas State, Purdue, the University of Georgia and Texas A&M.

In a journey there are multiple routes you can take to reach your destination. Similarly, there are many ways you can have a big effect on our mission. You are probably most familiar with making cash gifts, but there are many ways to make giving more tax efficient and as, if not more, fruitful for causes you care about.

Stocks investing in vocations

John Mrotek of Virginia saw the need to invest in Angus youth pursuing a trade. When he wanted to establish a scholarship fund to provide scholarships for students at trade schools, he found a tremendous advantage when he donated appreciated stock to create the John R. Mrotek Family Technical Education Scholarship Endowment Fund. For John, he didn't have to pay income or capital gains tax on stocks



Your gift helps fund the National Junior Angus Board (NJAB), a group of passionate young Angus breeders who serve as role models for the youth membership.

he had held for a long period of time, meaning his financial ability to make a charitable donation was enhanced.

Retiring tax smart

Donating stocks is not the only way you can extend your charitable reach. Many of us have retirement savings, and when we turn 72, we begin to have required minimum distributions. Let's face it, most farmers continue to earn income well past our non-farm peers.

Sometimes we don't really need this required minimum distribution, and we certainly don't want to pay the additional taxes by taking it. You can actually make a qualified charitable distribution from your retirement account to satisfy up to \$100,000 of your required minimum distribution.

Deduct today, give tomorrow

We greatly appreciate gifts received today as they fund the programs and

experiences being funded right now. We also appreciate planned gifts which can provide transformational gifts to fund the programs we value today into the future. There is a way you can earn a big tax deduction today while leaving a lasting legacy on our mission.

This gift, a Retained Life Estate, allows you to take a tax deduction today, by making an irrevocable deed gift to the Angus Foundation of your home or farmland. This allows you to retain ownership and use of your farm or home during your life and create a lasting legacy with the charity to continue forward.

One mission, many paths

There are dozens of ways to be a generous philanthropist while still managing to be tax savvy. In addition to the three examples given, there are gifts you can make which provide you an income, gifts that simultaneously provide for your

heirs and a charitable cause, and, of course, gifts you can make today like commodities or cash.

My job is to help facilitate and connect you and your passions with the charitable effect you have on our mission.

When you talk with your tax advisor or estate planner, ask them about ways you can be charitable and tax savvy. I am happy to meet with you one on one to discuss ways that work for you and provide educational tools for our members and juniors. **AJ**



tmarten@angus.org

Editor's note: For more information regarding the Angus Foundation, please contact Thomas Marten at (816) 383-5100 or tmarten@angus.org.

Refreshing gift

Making a big impact on the Angus Foundation's mission doesn't have to be "one size fits all." This year has provided a lot of unwanted proverbial "lemons," but even lemons can be put to good use. Moffitt Angus experienced many such lemons in 2020 between a barn fire, the damaging derecho that hit central Iowa and, of course, the pandemic. Still, despite the sour, some enterprising Angus youth turned those lemons into lemonade.

The cousins of Moffitt Angus in Colfax, Iowa, joined together to host an American summertime classic — the lemonade stand. These budding entrepreneurs opened up shop at the right time and the right place to sell a refreshing glass of lemonade to participants of the Iowa Angus Tour. Brilea, Brooke, Jillian, James, Thomas and Elizabeth also proved themselves as philanthropists donating \$50 to the Angus Foundation in support the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS).



2020 Miss Iowa Angus, Allie Bieber, poses with Jillian Moffitt, Brilea Moffitt, Brooke Moffitt and Elizabeth Kern.