Late-breaking news

Another North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) is nearly in the books, and it's time to head home and compile our coverage for the January issue. It's truly been a momentous event, though how momentous we may not realize for years to come. Here's a few highlights.

Congratulations

Jot Hartley of Spur Angus Ranch, Vinita, Okla., was elected president of the American Angus Association at the Annual Convention of Delegates Monday, Nov. 13. Paul Hill of Champion Hill, Bidwell, Ohio, was elected vice president. Jay King, Sauk Valley Angus, Rock Falls, Ill., will serve as treasurer for the upcoming year.

Five individuals were elected to serve threeyear terms on the American Angus Association Board of Directors. Al DeClerk, Pocahontas, Ark.; Joe Hampton, Mount Ulla, N.C.; and Rob Thomas, Baker City, Ore., were elected to their second terms. Steve Olson, Hereford, Texas; and Cathy Watkins, Middletown Ind., were elected to their first terms on the Board.

Congratulations to John Stika on his selection as the new president of Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB). John has been with CAB since 1999, getting his start as assistant director of feeder-packer relations. A native of Kansas, John brings to the position a superb blend of cow sense, business savvy and experience with the CAB program. He becomes the organization's third president.

Congratulations to Emily Tennant of Greensboro, N.C., for being crowned the new Miss American Angus and to Mary Greiman, Garner, Iowa, who was elected president of the American Angus Auxiliary.

Honored at the Annual Banquet Monday evening were National Junior Angus Association Outstanding Leadership Award winner Keela Retallick of Glen Haven, Wis., and five inductees to the American Angus Association Heritage Foundation. Inductees included Jesse Bontecou, Rally Farms, Millbrook, N.Y.; Eddie Sydenstricker, Sydenstricker Genetics, Mexico, Mo.; Dale Runnion, Longmont, Colo.; Robert Weaver, Weaver Angus Farm, Peoria, Ill.; and Colin Kennedy, formerly of Webster City, Iowa, who was inducted posthumously.

Show winners are available at www.angusjournal.com/louisville.

Business

At its meeting Saturday, Nov. 11, the Board approved a four-year research project focusing on feed efficiency to be funded through the Angus Foundation. The study

offers opportunity to glean a wealth of information about the Angus breed.

Continuing its focus on reproductive efficiency, the Board passed a motion to conduct a heifer pregnancy genetic evaluation to be published as a research report or supplement to the National Cattle Evaluation while continuing to evaluate multiple traits that affect reproductive efficiency.

The Board also approved an advisory council appointed by 2006 President Ben Eggers to establish guidelines for funding of the National Junior Angus Show. Hartley will chair the committee.

These are just a few of the highlights from Louisville. We'll cover the events in greater detail in the January issue.

Outreach seminars

Be sure to catch an Outreach Seminar this year to learn more about what's happening with your Association and its programs and services. Meetings are currently scheduled for

- ► Friday, Dec. 8, in conjunction with the Nebraska Angus Association Annual Meeting at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Kearney, Neb.;
- ► Monday, Dec. 11, at the Extension Office Conference Center in Jackson, Mo.; and
- ► Friday, March 16, in Clemson, S.C., in conjunction with the South Carolina Angus Association meeting.

More seminars will be added to the list. For updates to the schedule, visit www.angus.org.

Merry Christmas

I hope you have a chance to enjoy family and reflect upon the true meaning of our Christmas celebration. Merry Christmas, and have a safe and happy New Year.

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