



# Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights

## Finding your niche

*There once was a young boy who never really knew what he was good at. He wasn't the strongest athlete, nor was he the smartest kid in school. It seemed as though he just could not figure out what his niche in life was. He always remembered his teachers saying that everyone is gifted in one way or another, and this simple phrase is what pushed him on. His family raised Angus cattle, and his older sister showed.*

### Succeeding

The year finally came when he was old enough to begin showing himself. He would go back to the barn every day after school, working so hard to make sure his heifer would look and act perfect, doing all of this in hopes that his hard work would one day pay off.

When it came time for his first show he was so nervous. Before he knew it, it was time for his showmanship class to go in the showing, and he tried to think about all the things his dad taught him. The showmanship class seemed to take forever, but he kept doing what he had practiced so many times in his barn at home.

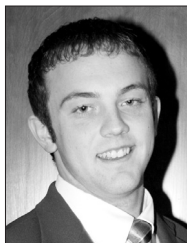
The class finally came to an end, and you should have seen the look on his face when he walked out of the ring, holding a blue ribbon in his hand and for the first time feeling confident. He found something he could do, and he did it well.

That kid was me, and from that day forward, showing cattle has been that one thing in life where I have excelled.

### Life thoughts

In life I feel that we are not given just one talent, as I had always been told throughout

my childhood. I believe each of us has many hidden talents within, but it takes much effort to figure out what they are.



Justin Brosey

We must also be willing to fail or succeed. It is through failure that we find the strength we need to press on. Showing cattle has done this for me. It has put me in many positions where I have had to step out and try new things that I was

not necessarily comfortable doing. Through doing these things, I have learned a lot about who I am.

Life has many paths along the way for us to travel, and this year I want to encourage you to walk down a new path and discover what it is that makes you unique and special. So, I leave you with a quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson, which I have found to be very inspiring throughout my life.

"When you do a thing, do it with all your might. Put your whole soul into it. Stamp it with your own personality. Be active, be energetic and faithful, and you will accomplish your object. Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm."

— Justin Brosey, Ohio

## USDA accepts applications for 2007 academic year

Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns has invited scholarship applications for the 1890 national scholars for next fall.

"The USDA [U.S. Department of Agriculture] 1890 National Scholars Program is a wonderful resource for identifying the leaders of tomorrow in agriculture," Johanns said. "We congratulate this year's scholars and welcome scholarship applications for the 2007 academic year."

The USDA 1890 National Scholars Program is a partnership initiative between USDA and the 1890 Land-Grant Universities. Through this initiative, USDA seeks to expand its diversity by recruiting talented students into public service in agriculture and related fields, including food sciences, natural resources and agricultural sciences. Since the inception of the National Scholars Program in 1992, USDA has funded a total of 413 national scholars.

Scholarship recipients receive full tuition, fees, books, use of laptop computers and software, printers, employment and employee benefits for each of the four years they pursue a bachelor's degree. Students receive room and board provided by the partnering institutions and are required to work one year at USDA for each year they receive the scholarship.

Scholars are selected by participating USDA agencies based on recommendations of participating 1890 Land-Grant Universities.

Applications for the 2007 academic school year are being accepted. The application form is available at [www.ascr.usda.gov/1890scholars\\_app.pdf](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/1890scholars_app.pdf). The application form can be printed blank or completed online and then printed. All 2007 application materials must be postmarked no later than March 1 and mailed to the USDA liaison officer at the applicant's university of choice.

The 1890 Land-Grant Universities are Alabama A&M University; Alcorn State University, Mississippi; Delaware State University; Florida A&M University; Fort Valley State University, Georgia; Kentucky State University; Langston University, Oklahoma; Lincoln University, Missouri; North Carolina A&T State University; Prairie

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View A&M University, Texas; South Carolina State University; Southern University, Baton Rouge, La.; Tennessee State University; Tuskegee University, Alabama; University of Arkansas Pine Bluff; University of Maryland Eastern Shore; Virginia State University; and West Virginia State University.

For more information, contact the USDA/1890 Programs Office by phone at (202) 205-5692, or by e-mail at [1890init@usda.gov](mailto:1890init@usda.gov). Additional information is available at [www.ascr.usda.gov/1890programs.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/1890programs.html).

### **Junior entry booklets mailed**

Every active junior member of the Association should have recently received a booklet of information regarding shows and events, entries, and deadlines for 2007. This booklet contains the rules, entry forms and information needed to participate in regional preview shows, regional shows, the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) and the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference. If you haven't received a packet, contact the Junior Activities Department at (816) 383-5100.

### **Tulsa to host 2007 NJAS**

The 2007 National Junior Angus Show will be July 1-7 at the Expo Square in Tulsa, Okla. The Oklahoma and Arkansas Angus associations are inviting all to the event, "The American Dream." The event will feature the largest single-breed beef cattle show in the world and a host of educational and leadership activities for youth 9 to 21 years old.

**Early deadlines.** Since the show is earlier in the year than usual, the ownership and entry deadline has been moved up to May 15. Members should have transfers completed and their entries submitted prior to the deadline, as late entries are not accepted. If submitting entries online, make sure you receive confirmation; and if mailing entries be sure to allow ample time or send your entries via certified mail.

Look for the show schedule and hotel information in the junior information packet, in future issues of the *Angus Journal*, or in the spring 2007 edition of the *Directions* newsletter. Online information is posted at [www.njas.info](http://www.njas.info).

### **Note Western Regional deadlines**

The ownership and entry deadline for the Western Regional Junior Angus Show is March 1. Remember, these are the dates by which applications for transfer and entries must be postmarked. Absolutely no late entries will be accepted for any reason.

The Western Regional is set for April 27-30 in Reno, Nev., in conjunction with the Western National Angus Futurity.

### **Association can help with junior transfers**

Make note of all ownership deadlines. If a deadline is fast approaching and you haven't received the transferred registration, the Association can help. Contact the Association at least two weeks prior to the show ownership deadline. Every effort will be made to get the transfer processed in time.

### **Nominate advisors and Honorary Angus Foundation recipients now**

Any state junior Angus association can nominate its advisor(s) to be honored as the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Advisor(s) of the Year. The award is presented at the NJAS and recognizes the time, effort and dedication adult volunteers give to their state junior Angus association.

Individuals can also nominate Angus enthusiasts for the Honorary Angus Foundation. This award is also presented during the NJAS and recognizes those who

have made extraordinary contributions to junior Angus programs.

Nomination forms are available online at [www.njaa.info](http://www.njaa.info) or by contacting the Junior Activities Department. Nominations for both honors are due to the Junior Activities Department by March 1.

### **Scholarships offered, May 1 deadline**

Now is the time for high school seniors who are college-bound or those who are already taking college classes to work on scholarship applications. The Angus Foundation will once again award \$100,000 in scholarships to those who are eligible. Scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 will be awarded.

Applicants for Foundation scholarships must be junior, regular or life members of the American Angus Association, and be less than 25 years old. Selection is based on involvement in Angus activities, academics and involvement in the beef industry. Scholarship winners will be announced during the awards function at the 2007 NJAS, which is set for July 1-7 in Tulsa, Okla.

The NJAA/Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) scholarship will also be awarded to one deserving Angus junior at the NJAS in July. Applicants for the \$1,000 scholarship must meet requirements mentioned above and be incoming sophomores, juniors or seniors in college. Applicants must be majoring in animal science, meat science, agricultural communications or other related fields.

All applications are due May 1. Contact the Angus Foundation or Junior Activities Department at the Association for application forms. You can also obtain an application online at [www.angusfoundation.org](http://www.angusfoundation.org).

### **Apply for Auxiliary scholarships now**

The American Angus Auxiliary awards 10 scholarships annually to five boys and five girls who are graduating high school seniors. Recipients are chosen from application forms that can be obtained from state Angus auxiliary scholarship contacts or by contacting Nancy Thelen, Auxiliary scholarship chairwoman, at (734) 944-6262 or [hillsideacres01@aol.com](mailto:hillsideacres01@aol.com).

Application information and a list of scholarship chairwomen are online at [www.angusauxiliary.com](http://www.angusauxiliary.com). State scholarship contacts are also provided in the Auxiliary annual report published as an insert in this issue. The postmark deadline is May 10. Juniors must first be chosen as a state auxiliary scholarship winner before advancing to the national competition.