

Displaying Accomplishment

Six state junior associations enter projects for consideration in the project of the year contest.

Story and photos by **Courtney Wimmer**

State junior Angus associations had the opportunity to display their accomplishments during the 2002 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Milwaukee, Wis. With activities such as a draw-down heifer raffle to a silent semen-auction, the project of the year contest made its debut with six state junior associations entering projects to be viewed and judged.

Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Michigan, Texas and West Virginia junior Angus associations entered projects and displays. The Michigan juniors won first place with their project, "Teaming up to Raise Dollars." They earned more than \$4,800 to help sponsor a breakfast during the NJAS. Read more about their project on page 206.

The Kansas Junior Angus Association placed second with its project, "Sunflower Showdown Central Regional Preview Junior Angus Show." The two-day show featured 241 head of cattle from 13 states in bred-and-owned, owned and showmanship divisions.

Promoting involvement

The purpose of the Project of the Year contest was for state junior associations to display and share a project undertaken by the state or regional association. The projects were designed to promote involvement of the junior program, the beef industry, the Angus breed, or youth in agriculture. The contest was co-sponsored by the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) and the Junior Activities Department of the American Angus Association.

The Arkansas Junior Angus Association entered the "Draw-Down Heifer Raffle" as its project of the year. The winner of this raffle is not the first ticket drawn — but the last one. The Arkansas juniors sell 100 numbers at \$100 each to gross \$10,000 each year.

As a fund-raiser for the 2003 Eastern Regional Show, the West Virginia Junior Angus Association sold semen via a silent auction. Farms and ranches donated straws of semen that were available for bidding during the West Virginia Beef Expo, April 12-13. This project earned \$1,635.



► Lana Myers, current National Junior Angus Association Board vice chairman, sets up the West Virginia display at the 2002 National Junior Angus Show. Six state junior associations entered projects and displays for the project of the year contest.

Colorado Junior Angus Association (CJAA) members developed a state newsletter to increase communication and membership in the state junior Angus association. Four newsletters were mailed to all Colorado junior Angus breeders who were members of the NJAA. In one year, the membership of the CJAA increased by 14 members.

The Texas Junior Angus

Association submitted the "Texas Size Project" as its project of the year. The junior association purchased a heifer and then sold raffle tickets for \$20 each or 6 for \$100. The raffle earned more than \$8,000 for the association.

Any state or regional junior Angus association could enter a display at the NJAS. The project of the year was judged separately, so state associations did not have

CONTINUED ON PAGE 204



► Kansas juniors earned second place in the project of the year contest for organizing the "Sunflower Showdown Central Regional Preview Junior Angus Show."



► The Arkansas Junior Angus Association entered the "Draw-Down Heifer Raffle" as its project of the year. Each junior association had to provide pamphlets describing their project for other states to pick up.

Displaying Accomplishment CONTINUED FROM PAGE 203

to have a display of cattle or a booth. Winning entries in the contest received cash prizes ranging from \$50 for first place to \$10 for fifth.

Guidelines

The NJAA and the Junior Activities Department established guidelines for the Project of the Year contest. They are as follows:

1. The competition will be held in conjunction with the NJAS.
2. Each state association may enter only one project. The project must have been completed between July 1 of the previous year and June 30 of the current year.
3. Possible project topics include a fund-raiser, membership recruitment, community service, leadership program, etc.
4. States may enter the same project more than once, as long as the project is held in the current year. However, once a project is awarded first place it must be retired as a contest entry.

5. All states entering a project will be provided one 8-foot (ft.) table. The display should include one easel, one three-ring binder, one display board, and pamphlets to distribute. No other items can be a part of the display.
6. The dimensions for the display board, measured from the floor, are a maximum of 8 ft. wide, 9 ft. high, and 2.5 ft. deep.
7. Each state is required to have available 200 copies of a pamphlet describing its project for other states to pick up.

The project should answer the following questions: Whom does the project involve? What is the purpose of the project? When did you complete the project? Where was the project completed? Why did you choose the project? How was the project successful? Other lessons learned.

