



Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights

Make your own footprints on the NJAA

As I filled out my Gold Award application and reflected on my years as a junior member, I thought about all the experiences I've had and memories I have made. I recently attended a convention where retiring officers gave speeches to encourage and motivate members.

One in particular that struck me was about leaving a legacy and included playing the song "Live Like You Were Dying" by country music artist Tim McGraw. This is one of my favorite songs and was part of my vesper at the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) Conference last summer; but, more importantly, it includes a worthwhile message for everyone.

As you go through life, you have the opportunity to do things that make a difference in the lives of others and to fulfill your own goals and dreams. McGraw's hit song encourages people to live every day of their lives like it were their last in order to do the things they want and leave a legacy in the process.

During my time as a member of the Michigan Junior Angus Association and National Junior Angus Association (NJAA), I have taken on various leadership positions, served as a mentor to younger members and made friends from around the country. Many of the points you accumulate for the NJAA Bronze, Silver and Gold awards are leadership related — serving as an officer, attending LEAD conferences and being a voting delegate for your state, to name a few. This led me to think about the relationship between leadership and making memories as a junior Angus member.

Former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani has published several books about leadership and his definition of it while reflecting on his career as an American leader. His six characteristics of leadership inspired me.

First, he says, you have to have conviction through expressing what you believe with a strong voice. Second, you need to be an optimist and someone who is always looking for solutions and refuses to be overwhelmed by problems. Third, there must be a willingness to take

risks, which Giuliani described as courage. Fourth is relentless preparation — an absolute refusal to ever take anything for granted.

Fifth, he says, teamwork is essential, springing from the ability to inspire trust. Finally, he talks about the need for leaders to be able to communicate — to express what they believe in to the people around them.

It is obvious that many of these characteristics apply to each and every junior member, and many characteristics are necessary in every junior contest in which we participate. Having conviction and a strong voice comes from experience in public speaking and believing in what you have to say. I take pride in being an optimist and know that many juniors also refuse to give up when presented with roadblocks. Without courage, taking risks and overcoming

fears, we would all be exactly the same and not much fun to be around. As we prepare for shows and contests, or even just chores and school, we have to pay attention to details in order to be fully ready for any task. Teamwork is truly essential in order to get things done; from being on a sports team to being on a team for a National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) contest, you have to work to trust one another in order to be successful. Communication is a necessary and important part of everything we do in life. It is apparent that these characteristics are applicable to all of our lives and universal beyond our Angus experiences.

As I look back on my time as an NJAA member and the experiences I've had, I would like to both encourage and challenge each and every junior member. First of all, I encourage you to strive to apply each of Giuliani's characteristics to your own life. Second, I would like to challenge you to take the words of McGraw to heart and "Live like you were dying" by living every day to its fullest and living your dreams.

Being from the North, I am excited that summer is approaching and that the snow is gone. I hope you all have a great summer and wish you the best of luck at your shows and other activities!

— **Renee Thelen, Michigan**



Renee Thelen

► STATE SPOTLIGHTS

► Kentucky Angus Ass'n Annual Banquet & Meeting, Louisville, March 4

► Kentucky Junior Angus Ass'n board of directors include (seated, from left) **Lauren Moss**, Lancaster, reporter; **Joshua Jackson**, Salvisa, second vice president; **Bradley Warren**, Lebanon, president; **Justin Jackson**, Salvisa, first vice president; **Jillian Warren**, Lebanon, secretary; (standing, from left) **Nicole Bugg**, Burgin, reporter; **Ericka Waggener**, Harrodsburg, reporter; **Cameron Nunn**, Canmer, director; **Nicole Pellicano**, Perryville, director; **Amanda Chumley**, Stamping Ground, director; **Joseph Jackson**, Salvisa, director; and **Charles Toll**, Lawrenceburg, director.



► Kentucky Angus royalty include (from left) **Ericka Waggener**, Harrodsburg, queen, and **Amanda Chumley**, Stamping Ground, princess.



► **Andrew Bell** (right), New Hope, is presented the Outstanding Junior Member Award by Glenn Bugg, junior advisor.

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▶ Iowa Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Des Moines, Feb. 16



▶ The Iowa Angus Auxiliary recognizes **Landi McFarland** (right), Ellston, for earning her Gold Award. Jan Carlson, Iowa Auxiliary president, is also pictured.



▶ Iowa Angus royalty are (from left) **Bridget Driscoll**, Williamsburg, queen; **Laura Mommsen**, DeWitt, princess; **Lauren Schroeder**, Clarence, princess; and **Amanda Wical**, Grundy Center, princess.



▶ The Iowa Junior Angus Ass'n presents 2004 show awards to (from left) **Ashley Kuehn**, Durant, Show Steer of the Year; **Lisa Stream**, Chariton, Show Bull of the Year; **Stephanie Arp**, Walcott, Bred-and-Owned Heifer of the Year; **Weston Brandt**, Corning, accepting for **Austin Brandt**, Cow-Calf Pair of the Year; and **Madison Henderson**, Drakesville, Owned Heifer of the Year.



▶ Tricia Holmes (center) presents the Iowa Angus Auxiliary Anita Russell Award to **Landi McFarland** (right). **Bridget Driscoll**, Williamsburg, is first runner-up.

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NJAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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NJAA members earn Bronze and Silver

The Bronze and Silver awards are the first two levels of the National Junior Recognition Program (NJRP), which the American Angus Association began in 1972. To receive these honors, junior Angus members must apply for the awards and meet point requirements in many areas of participation.

Applicants are evaluated in the areas of junior Angus association activities, participation in showmanship and leadership events, use of performance testing to improve their herds, and progress in producing and merchandising Angus cattle.

While the Bronze and Silver awards are presented to members throughout the year, Angus Productions Inc. (API) publishes summaries of the award winners in the May and September youth-focused issues of the *Angus Journal*. James Fisher, director of activities and junior activities for the American Angus Association, announced the following award winners since publication of the September 2004 issue.

Bronze Awards

Matthew Boeker, 14, Bentonville, Ark. He is the son of Chuck and Marilyn Boeker.

Andrew Boeker, 17, Bentonville, Ark. He is the son of Chuck and Marilyn Boeker.

James Full, 12, Mount Airy, Md. He is the son of Douglas and Donna Full.

Katisha Pickrell, 17, Augusta, Ky. She is the daughter of Gerald and Kathi Pickrell.

Chase Thummel, 10, Sheridan, Mo. He is the son of Jeff and Deb Thummel.

Paige Tribble, 13, Pocahontas, Ark. She is the daughter of Terry and Laura Tribble.

Trevor Whiteside, 16, Queenstown, Md. He is the son of Mike and Julie Whiteside.

Silver Award

Kyle Kemp, 18, Paradise, Texas. He is the son of Thomas and Evie Kemp.

Bronze and Silver awards

Jeremy Adkins, 21, Pelzer, S.C. He is the son of Jesse and Debbie Adkins.

Kirk Boeker, 19, Bentonville, Ark. He is the son of Chuck and Marilyn Boeker.

Megan Fink, 14, Manhattan, Kan. She is the daughter of Galen and Lori Fink.

Mandy Gimbel, 17, Ree Heights, S.D. She is the daughter of Delton and Shirley Gimbel.

Rachel Herbst, 20, Salmon, Idaho. She is the daughter of Steve and Janna Herbst.

Jill Jagers, 17, Sulphur Bluff, Texas. She is the daughter of Terry and Tina Jagers.

Alison Johnston, 18, Houston, Minn. She is the daughter of Dave and Tammy Johnston.

Bethany Kohl, 18, Waterloo, Wis. She is the daughter of Dennis and Mary Kohl.

Karin Romanchuk, 17, Grass Range, Mont. She is the daughter of Russell and Lisa Degner.

Emily Tennant, 17, Greensboro, N.C. She is the daughter of Stan and Maggie Tennant.

Rebecca Tokach, 18, Saint Anthony, N.D. She is the daughter of Richard and Kathy Tokach.

Chelsea Wieben, 20, Waterford, Va. She is the daughter of Mike and Wendy Wieben.

▶ Missouri Angus Ass'n Annual Banquet, Columbia, Feb. 26



▶ **Chase Thummel** (left), Sheridan, is presented his Bronze Award from the NJAA by **James Fisher**, American Angus Association.

Angus youth top judging contest

Virginia Tech University was the big winner in the Spring Livestock Judging, Selection and Evaluation Contest hosted at the University of Tennessee (UT) on March 18-19. The contest took place in the Livestock Arena on the University's Agriculture Campus and was a joint effort between UT's Animal Science Department, UT Extension and the Knoxville Agricultural Experiment Station. Competition was open to all four-year ag colleges in the Southeast.

Virginia Tech won first place in all three divisions of the competition, including judging, selection and evaluation. Judging included classes of four cattle, sheep and swine, with oral reasons to explain each student's placing. The selection competition included six classes of eight cattle selected on

the basis of phenotypic characteristics, as well as performance data and genetic markers. The evaluation contest, consisting of 30 cattle evaluated for market characteristics, included data on ribeye area, external fat depth, quality grade and yield grade to use in making decisions.

Carcass measurements were determined by ultrasound technology. Feeder cattle were evaluated for frame size and muscle score.

Matt Manbeck, former NJAA member and Virginia Tech team member, was high individual in the selection contest and second in the judging event. NJAA member Amanda Lickey of Virginia Tech placed third in selection, while her teammate Whitney Lindsey placed third in judging.



Start Snapping



Now is a great time to start snapping photos for the 2005 junior Angus photo contest. Entries should be postmarked by June 1.

All junior Angus members are invited to enter the annual photography contest co-sponsored by the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) and the *Angus Journal*. Photos of Angus cattle or breeders, farms, ranches, shows, sales, or scenes will be judged on creativity and composition.

The NJAA Board of Directors adopted new guidelines to be used for mounting photos for entry. The 2005 contest marks the first year black foam core is required for entry (see rules in the March 2005 *Angus Journal*).

The "around the farm or ranch" category provides the opportunity to enter photographs that highlight activities and scenes around the farm or ranch, but that do not necessarily have Angus cattle in the photograph. The other three categories — Angus cattle, landscape and

people — are intended for photos that center on Angus cattle or people.

A panel of qualified judges will critique the photographs using the following criteria:

- 60% — creativity, communication power and composition of photo
- 40% — technical quality of the photo, such as proper light exposure, true color, sharp focus and correct cropping

Winners will be selected in three age divisions: 9 to 13; 14 to 17; and 18 to 21 years (as of Jan. 1 of the current year). Prizes will be: 1st, \$30; 2nd, \$20; 3rd, \$10. All photographs will be displayed at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Denver, Colo. Winning photos are scheduled to be printed as part of the 2005 NJAS coverage in the September 2005 issue of the *Angus Journal*.

In 1992, the NJAA and the *Angus Journal* collaborated to create this contest. It was instituted to give NJAA members an opportunity to submit photos for publication. Editor Shauna Rose Hermel will select from all entries photos to be scanned and kept as stock photos for possible use in future issues of the *Angus Journal*.

While photos from digital cameras are eligible to compete, Hermel encourages those who would like to see their photos published in the magazine to use a 35mm camera or submit also a CD with the original digital file.



Editor's Note: Contest rules and an entry form can be found in the March issue of the *Angus Journal* and online at www.njaa.info/contests/photo_rules.html.

2005 Junior Angus Photo Contest Entry Form

Name _____ Member code _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Age as of Jan. 1, 2005: 9-13 _____ 14-17 _____ 18-21 _____

Photo category:

Angus cattle _____ Landscape _____ People _____ Around the farm or ranch _____

Location/event where photo was taken _____

Photo title _____