



Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights

Step outside the box

“Unless you try to do something beyond what you have already mastered, you will never grow.”

— Ronald E. Osburn

Oftentimes, we as Angus breeders get caught up in our own breed and all the activities that surround it. Seldom do we think about the other breeds and the difficulties that they face. The National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) Board of Directors attended the Youth Beef Industry Congress (YBIC) March 25-28 in College Station, Texas. At YBIC, we got a glimpse of the challenges other breeds must face.



Jamie King

We went into the experience, not looking for ways to teach the other breeds what was right, but to learn new ideas and to discuss the challenges we all face. Since the conference was in the southern part of the country, some of us were exposed to cattle and ideas for marketing cattle that we had little experience with previously. We discussed topics ranging from marbling to looking toward a future career. Some of the speakers we listened to had opinions very different from our own. However, we took this opportunity as a chance to learn about differing opinions rather than shutting out the information just because it was different from what we believed.

I would like to encourage our junior members to “step outside the box” and learn a little bit about the beef industry, as well as about other breeds of cattle. As young

producers we need to realize that we are the future of this industry, and to be successful in it, we must be knowledgeable about it. Knowing a little bit about a few prominent issues will help you a lot in the future. We should all know what some of the important issues are and how they can affect us both positively and negatively. It is comparable to the grade you get on a test; if you study and understand the material, you will get a good grade. If you know and understand some of the issues in the beef industry, then you are taking a step in the right direction.

In addition to knowing what is going on in the beef industry, take some time to learn from other associations. Ask other state or breed association leaders what is successful for them and see if it could work for your group. Many times you can learn valuable information from a group that you are not directly involved in because you can see the strengths and weaknesses of the group.

After attending YBIC I feel very fortunate to be a part of the Angus breed because of all the tremendous support we receive for our junior activities. I was also glad to have the chance to talk to representatives from other breeds and learn about their programs as well as share some of the programs that work for us.

I would like to encourage all of you to “step outside the box” and learn about a different group or association, as well as the beef industry. You might learn something valuable.

— Jamie King, Ohio

Ken Troutt Memorial Scholarship awarded

The 9th Annual Ken Troutt Memorial Scholarship recipient was selected at the Annual Cowman’s Classic All-Breed Bull Sale Feb. 24 in Spokane, Wash. This year’s recipient is Jason Crabtree of Kingston, Wash. Crabtree received an appointment and will enroll at West Point Military Academy this fall. The presentation was made at the Washington Cattlemen’s Association (WCA) Bull Test sale by Jerry York, *Western Livestock Journal* field representative, on behalf of the consignors, management and staff of the Cowman’s Classic All-Breed Bull Sale.



► Jason Crabtree (right), Kingston, Wash., is awarded the Ken Troutt Memorial Scholarship. Jerry York presents the scholarship.

This \$500 scholarship is awarded each year to an enrolling college freshman from a family that has consigned or purchased bulls at the sale. Ken Troutt was a renowned auctioneer who had served the sale until his death. The scholarship money is generated by contributions and endowments.

NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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► **2004 Kentucky Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting and Banquet, Louisville, March 5**



► Kentucky Angus royalty include (from left) **Ericka Waggener**, Harrodsburg, princess; and **Jillian Warren**, Lebanon, queen.



► The Kentucky Angus Ass'n awards **Jenna and Ben Brown**, both of Woodburn, the Herdsman of the Year Award.



► The Kentucky Junior Angus Ass'n awards **Charles Toll** (right), Lawrenceburg, the Outstanding Junior Member honor. Glenn Bugg, junior advisor, presents the award.

► The Kentucky Junior Angus Ass'n board of directors includes (front row, from left), **Joshua Jackson**, Salvisa, treasurer; **Justin Jackson**, Salvisa, vice president; **Andrew Bell**, New Hope, president; **Bradley Warren**, Lebanon, second vice president; and **Jillian Warren**, Lebanon, secretary. Directors include (standing from left) **Ericka Waggener**, Harrodsburg; **Kyle Ayres**, Lancaster; **Ben and Jenna Brown**, both of Woodburn; **Lauren Moss**, Lancaster, reporter; **Nikki Bugg**, Harrodsburg; and **Charles Toll**, Lawrenceburg.



Junior beef leaders convene at YBIC

Young leaders in the beef industry gathered March 25-28 in College Station, Texas, for the 2004 YBIC. The biennial event allows those who serve in leadership roles in junior beef breed and state junior cattlemen organizations to meet, share ideas and enhance industry knowledge. The event is sponsored in part by the U.S. Beef Breeds Council and is funded by other corporate entities through the Angus Foundation.

This year's event was conducted at the Texas A&M Beef Center and on the A&M campus. Keynote speaker Bill Turner, who currently operates a commercial cow herd, encouraged the youth to be the best leaders they can be.

"Leaders are people who make change," Turner stated. "The key to success in the beef industry is anticipating change that is going to come along and be[ing] prepared to take advantage of it."

Youth participated in a mini-Beef 706 seminar. Larry Boleman and Dave Griffin, both with Texas A&M, presented the workshop. Boleman gave an overview of how to estimate yield and quality grades on live cattle. A video of four steers, taken earlier in the week, was shown. Later, Griffin showed the carcasses of those steers and explained their final grades in the meats lab.

Charles Bradbury, with the Nolan Ryan Tender Aged Beef Co., spoke following a meal featuring the product. He presented an overview of the company's history and marketing structure.

The group traveled to Camp Cooley Ranch near Franklin. The ranch staff gave a tour of the operation and presented workshops about embryo transfer (ET), livestock photography and marketing.

R.C. Slocum, former A&M football coach and FOX sports commentator, closed the event with a breakfast talk. He encouraged the group to be of strong character, to be honest and to take pride in all they do.

"Character is the person you are when no one else is looking," Slocum said.

Other speakers throughout the event included Michale DeLazerda and Russell Woodward, both with the Texas Beef Council; Rhonda Miller and Clair Gill, both with Texas A&M; E.C. Larkins, Gulf Coast Publishing; Terri Barber, Texas Department of Ag; and Angie Burkes, Ag Consortium of Texas.

The YBIC was organized to bring concerned youth working in the interest of the beef industry together. YBIC provides

leadership training and further knowledge of all segments of the industry and how those segments work together to ensure success.

Angus juniors place in national essay contest

Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman announced that Tyler Kimmel, Stoneham, Colo.; Waco Phipps, Kearney, Neb.; Kristi Brown, Canton, Okla.; and Jordan Davis, Foss, Okla., were among the top ten winners in the 7th annual FFA/Risk Management Strategies Writing Contest.

"This cooperative program with FFA provides opportunities for young people to focus on risk management as a vital business tool and develop their leadership skills," Veneman said. "I congratulate these students for their individual achievements and for serving their communities through FFA."

The theme of this year's contest was "Risk Management Strategies for My Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Program." A select panel of independent judges from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) reviewed the essays, selecting the winners from more than 160 entries on the basis of content, adherence to the assigned topic, grammar, organization, originality and creativity.

The Risk Management Agency (RMA) provided winners and their advisors with a trip to the Nation's Capital to be recognized during a ceremony at a special RMA/FFA Day, May 6-7.

Gillig earns scholarship

Brittany Gillig, Aurora, Mo., was awarded one of four \$500-scholarships from Accelerated Genetics' 2004 Youth Scholarship Program. Accelerated Genetics annually awards scholarships to young people entering either a four-year degree program or a vocational-technical school in agriculture.



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▶ 2004 Michigan Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting and Banquet, Mason, March 14

▶ The Michigan Junior Angus Ass'n board of directors includes (seated, from left) **Evan Boehmer**, Olivet, president; **Rachael Vaassen**, Ann Arbor, vice president; **Julie Thelen**, Saline, secretary; **Danielle Foster**, Niles, treasurer; **Paige Tuggle**, Ithaca, award director; (standing, from left) **Erika Boehmer**, Olivet, junior livestock representative; **Drew and Hope Border**, both co-reporters/historians from Sturgis; **Andrew Foster**, Niles, director; **Nicole and Scott Heil**, both directors from Berrien Center; **Patricia Vaassen**, Ann Arbor, director; **Benjamin Canfield**, Clarksville, director; **Ricka Boehmer**, Williamston, director; **Wren Schroeder**, Deckerville, director; and **Renee Thelen**, Saline, director.



▶ Michigan's top five Premier Breeder honorees for 2003 are (from left) **Erika Boehmer**, Olivet; **Julie Thelen**, Saline; **Evan Boehmer**, Olivet; **Wren Schroeder**, Deckerville; and **Andrew Foster**, Niles.



▶ Michigan's top five Premier Exhibitor honorees for 2003 are (from left) **Danielle and Andrew Foster**, both of Niles; **Erika Boehmer**, Olivet; **Julie Thelen**, Saline; and **Ricka Boehmer**, Williamston.



▶ **Kendra Merriman** (right), Lowell, is named the Outstanding Junior Member. **Patricia Vaassen**, a past winner, presents the award.



▶ **Ricka Boehmer** (left), Williamston, was named the Outstanding Senior Member. **Julie Thelen**, the past winner, presents the award.



▶ **Rachael Vaassen** (left), Ann Arbor, is crowned the 2004 Miss Michigan Angus. **Julie Thelen**, Saline, 2003 Miss Michigan Angus, is also pictured.

▶ Wisconsin



▶ **Stephen Kohl** (left), Waterloo, Wis., receives his Bronze and Silver awards from the National Junior Angus Association. **Jerry Cassidy**, regional manager for the American Angus Association, presents the awards.

▶ 2004 Tennessee Angus Ass'n Show and Sale, Murfreesboro, March 13



▶ Tennessee Angus royalty are (from left) **Sarah Orr**, Greenville, East Tennessee Angus princess; **Laura May**, Hurricane Mills, Tennessee Angus queen; and **Hannah Rowlett**, Hurricane Mills, Middle Tennessee Angus princess.



▶ **Joe Elliott** (center), American Angus Association president, presents **Hannah** (left) and **Jan Rowlett**, both of Hurricane Mills, their Bronze Awards.

