



Association Highlights

► compiled by *Shauna Rose Hermel*, editor

Reserve the date

The 2015 Angus Means Business National Convention & Trade Show will take place Nov. 3-5 at the Overland Park Convention Center in Overland Park, Kan. The three-day event will feature thought leaders from across

the industry, including representatives from the seedstock, commercial and feeding sectors. Attend educational seminars, conduct Association business, listen to top-notch speakers and make connections at the conference.



Now in its second year, the event will feature expanded workshops that cover a variety of topics, including genomics, recordkeeping, herd management and performance tools. Industry-leading speakers, American Angus Association staff and other experts will be among the presenters. A three-day trade show featuring allied industry partners will offer cattlemen a chance to browse through the latest in products and services available to the beef industry and to visit with Angus breeders from throughout the country.

Convention highlights will also include a preconvention Kansas regional cattle tour hosted by the Kansas Angus Association Nov. 2, an international genomics symposium and nationally known entertainment.

Registration will be available online June 1. See page 51 in this issue for more information.

Nominate a delegate for Annual Convention

Preparations are being made for the 2015 Annual Convention of Delegates this November in Overland Park, Kan. Forms to nominate delegates to the Annual Meeting were mailed to every active life and regular Association member during the last week of March.

The nomination period is April 1-June 30. Each member is allowed to nominate one eligible active life or regular member who resides in the same state or district, including himself or herself. The candidate should be highly involved in the Angus business, willing to attend the meeting and able to represent Angus breeders.

Signed nomination forms must be received in the Association office no later than 4:30 p.m. Central Daylight Time (CDT) June 30, at which time every qualified nominee will be included on a state ballot. State ballots will be mailed to the membership in July to vote for the final slate of state delegates. When you receive the petition, please return it promptly.

Online registration open for BIF Symposium

Online registration is now available at

ASSOCIATION FEES

CURRENT ASSOCIATION FEES

Following are the correct fees for various American Angus Association services. Be sure to send the correct amount of money with the work being requested, as incorrect payments are the main cause of delays.

REGISTRATIONS

Applications for animals less than 4 months of age	\$7
Applications for animals 4-10 months of age	\$9
Applications for animals 10-12 months of age	\$14
Applications for animals more than 12 months of age	\$27

TRANSFERS

Applications received less than 30 days from sale date	\$5
Applications received 30-60 days from sale date	\$7
Applications received more than 60 days from sale date	\$12

MISCELLANEOUS

Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) fee (per weaning weight)	\$3
Artificial insemination (AI) service certificate	\$10
Regular annual membership	\$80
Regular annual membership with <i>Angus Journal</i> subscription	\$130
Lifetime membership (optional to pay in three \$500/year installments)	\$1,500
Junior annual membership (less than 21 years of age)	\$20
Embryo-transfer (ET) calf	regular registration fee plus \$10
Cell-clone transplant calf	regular registration fee plus \$50

Rules of the American Angus Association are included in the *Breeder's Reference Guide*. Free copies are available from the Association. An online version is available through the "Rules and Forms" link at www.angus.org.

BREEDER'S REFERENCE

Symbols are used with a registration number to denote important information about an animal.

Symbol	Meaning
#	Pathfinder cow or Pathfinder sire
+	Embryo transfer calf
^	Cell clone
%	Split-ET
@	Clone-ET

The American Angus Association currently recognizes the following genetic conditions:

Code	Meaning
AM	Arthrogyrosis multiplex
CA	Contractural arachnodactyly
D2	PRKG2 gene mutation for dwarfism
DD	Developmental duplication
DM	Double muscling
DW	Dwarfism
HG	Horn gene
HI	Heterochromia irides
M1	nt821 mutation for double muscling
NH	Neuropathic hydrocephalus
OS	Osteopetrosis
RD	Red gene
SN	Syndactyly
WT	Wild type color gene

The following single-letter descriptors appearing after a genetic condition code shall have the following meaning:

- P – refers to a "potential" carrier based on an ancestor known to carry that specific mutation.
- F – refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be "free" of that specific mutation.
- C – refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a "carrier" of that specific mutation.
- A – refers to an animal tested for one or more genetic conditions and determined to be a carrier of two copies of that specific mutation. It may or may not exhibit the phenotype associated with that genetic condition.

The following letter designations describe cases in which there is more than one genetic condition present:

- XF – Free of more than one genetic condition.
- XC – Carrier of more than one genetic condition.
- XA – Affected of more than one genetic condition.
- RTF – Recessive trait free (produced 35 or more calves from daughters without a genetic defect).

<http://beefimprovement.org/library/registration-info> for the 2015 Beef Improvement Federation Symposium (BIF) and Convention. The annual event is scheduled for June 9-12 in Biloxi, Miss. Mississippi State University and the Mississippi Extension Service will host the event at the Beau Rivage Casino and Hotel in Biloxi. Rebuilding the cow herd and female selection will be core themes of this year's event.

A schedule, along with hotel and travel information, is available at www.bifconference.com, the *Angus Journal's* online coverage site for the event.

NJAA Ambassador Program

Funded by the Angus Foundation, the NJAA Ambassador program is an educational experience designed to recognize one outstanding junior Angus member who will support the production of the Angus breed and the consumption of Angus beef on a national and international level.

The selected person will represent the NJAA at major beef industry conferences and events across the United States for one year.

American Angus Association members, ages 17-20, of good standing who own purebred cattle are eligible to apply. A cover letter, résumé and essay questions are due June 1 to the Events & Education Department, 3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506. For more information and the essay questions, contact the department at 816-383-5100.

Silent Auction to support Foundation

A silent auction featuring a variety of Angus items will be conducted during the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Tulsa, Okla. All proceeds from the auction benefit the Angus Foundation.

All adult and junior state associations are encouraged to donate an item, but donations can be from individuals and farms. To donate an item, contact the Angus Foundation at 816-383-5100.

Seeking golf tournament sponsors and players

The Angus Foundation's annual golf tournament will be Tuesday, July 14, at the Forest Ridge Golf Club, Broken Arrow, Okla. The golf tournament is hosted in conjunction with the 2015 NJAS. Proceeds from the fundraising activity benefit Angus education, youth and research.

The Gary and Sharon Stevenson Family of

Flying G Ranch, Caldwell, Texas, purchased the golf tournament sponsorship for \$2,000 at Angus Night on the Mountain at Spruce Mountain Ranch, Larkspur, Colo., in January. There are eight other sponsorship levels available. The deadline to be a sponsor is May 29.

To play in the tournament, adults can register at \$100 per person, and junior golfers (NJAA members) can register at \$75 per person. Registration deadline is June 22. After June 22, a \$10 late registration fee applies per player.

Visit www.angusfoundation.org to find out how you and your Angus farm can be

recognized as a sponsor or participate in the 2015 Angus Foundation Golf Tournament.

New initiative to engage future cattle producers

Applications are now available online (www.angus.org/Performance/Documents/FASEnrollmentForm.pdf) to enroll in Future Angus Stockmen, a new program launched by the American Angus Association to embrace the next generation of cattlemen through learning opportunities, while building a bond with the Angus breed and its member-driven organization.

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Geared toward college-age or recent graduates who want to raise high-quality Angus-based cattle, the program will offer educational opportunities that teach participants how to thrive in the cattle industry, social networking to connect them



with fellow producers, and leadership development to instill an entrepreneurial spirit and drive to improve their

businesses. Participants will learn how to use proven information such as expected progeny differences (EPDs) and dollar value indexes (\$Values), while incorporating DNA technology to make data-driven decisions. Additional program benefits include enrollment in either AngusSource® or AngusSource Genetic, and access to Beef Record Service (BRS) or MaternalPlus® at a reduced cost for submitting data.

Young people who enroll in the program will have the chance to apply for scholarships.

For more information, contact Ginette Kurtz, director of commercial programs at 816-383-5100 or gkurtz@angus.org.

Allied Angus Breeders Scholarship

The Angus Foundation Board of Directors approved funds to provide \$1,000 scholarships to three youth who use Angus genetics in their seedstock or commercial operations. Awards will be given in July 2015.

Applicants must be enrolled in a junior college, four-year college/university or other accredited institution for the fall of 2015. They can be an entering freshman or a continuing student in any undergraduate program. The applicant or applicant's parents/guardians must have transferred or been transferred a registration paper in the last 36 months (on or after May 1, 2012).

Full details of eligibility can be found at www.angusfoundation.org. Information and an application can be found in the resources section on the home page.

Mark calendars for summer events

Members of the NJAA should have their calendars marked for a summer of regional preview shows, the NJAS and the Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conference.

The NJAS, themed "Angus Leading the Way" will be July 13-18 in Tulsa. For a preview of the event, including a tentative schedule, see page 138 in this issue. For more information about the weeklong shows and contests, visit www.njas.info.

The 2015 LEAD Conference, themed "Success in Seattle," is set for Aug. 6-9 in Seattle, Wash. The National Junior Angus Board (NJAB) has planned leadership and personal skill-building activities for NJAA participants 14-21 years old.

Space is limited, so register early. Early registration, due June 15, is \$250 for junior members and \$300 for advisors/chaperones. After June 15, rates increase to \$275 for junior members. Visit www.angus.org/njaa to register.

A host of other deadlines are available in "Next Generation," the column targeted for NJAA members that begins on page 30 of this issue.

Juniors, submit entries online

Junior members can save time by submitting entries for shows online. Log on to www.angus.org/njaa and provide the necessary information, including a Visa® or MasterCard® number to cover entry and bedding fees. Online entries are subject to the same entry deadlines as those submitted via mail. No late entries are accepted for any reason.

Association can help with junior transfers

If you know of a junior member who has purchased or raised a heifer that he or she wants to show, please make note of all ownership deadlines. If a deadline is 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. Remember, late transfers are never accepted, regardless of the reason.

Custom Cattle Tags offers affordable ID

Cattle producers looking for affordable ways to identify their herd should visit www.customcattletags.com, a service provided by the American Angus Association. Anyone can order ear tags, applicators, syringes and accessories.

Custom Cattle Tags provides high-quality, low-cost, customized ear tags, blank tags and prenumbered tags for cattle producers across the United States.

Purchase Angus photos online

While in the showing or covering Angus events, Association staff capture thousands of photos throughout the year. Candid photographs, backdrop images and others can be found online through a special photo website (photo.angus.org). The Association

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recently released new prices and offers digital downloads, photo prints and other gift items, such as magnets, photo books, keychains and more.

For more information, contact the PR Department at prphotos@angus.org or 816-383-5100 for more information.

Request sale-day or field-day kit

Producers with late spring sales or those planning summer field days at their operations can request a sale-day kit or field-day planner and kit from the American Angus Association. The kits include educational and promotional information about the Angus breed and Association programs.

All materials should be requested at least

two weeks prior to your event to ensure items will reach your destination. Contact Amber Wahlgren or Lea Ann Maudlin at 816-383-5100.

MaternalPlus®

MaternalPlus is a voluntary, inventory-based reporting system designed to capture additional reproductive trait data and, ultimately, expand reproductive and lifetime productivity tools. By using MaternalPlus, producers will receive additional information at weaning processing time, including calving ease, birth weight and weaning weight EPDs for calves out of inventoried cows.

In addition, MaternalPlus allows producers to submit cow disposal codes and reason designations, which keeps an accurate record of why a cow left the herd.

To learn more about MaternalPlus, visit www.angus.org or AAA Login.

The Angus Report airs each week on RFD-TV

The Angus Report delivers Association and industry news each week on RFD-TV. Catch the original broadcast at 7:30 a.m. CDT Monday morning. Each program is rebroadcast the following Wednesday evening at 5 p.m., Thursday afternoon at 3:30 p.m. and Saturday at 1:30 p.m.

State Angus associations, publications, breeders and others looking for website content are encouraged to post segments of the free program on their websites. Videos will be updated regularly at www.angus.org and through the Association's Facebook and Twitter pages.



Lifetime membership options

The American Angus Association offers producers a lifetime membership option. The \$1,500 membership lasts throughout the life of the sole person named on the membership. Payments may be broken into three nonrefundable yearly installments.

Lifetime memberships can be issued to one person only, and are not meant for partnerships. The membership option may be used for a farm name, provided only one person is included on the membership.

Download the Angus App

Angus Mobile is a free, smartphone application for the iPhone, iPad and Android devices that allows app users to update herd data no matter where they are on their farm or ranch. Download the easy-to-navigate app and gain access to the latest news, sale reports, show results, EPDs and \$Values, percentiles and much more. Visit www.angus.org for more details.

Post Angus videos on your website

The American Angus Association has released its latest national advertisements focusing on the straightbred Angus advantage. Short video segments are available to post to state association or individual websites, free of charge. Watch the videos at www.angus.org or on YouTube by searching for "Angus means business." Contact the PR and Communications Department at 816-383-5100 for more information.