

# **Foundation Fundamentals**

▶ by Milford Jenkins, Angus Foundation

## It starts with a gift

While attending the spectacular recent National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Kansas City, Mo., numerous people complimented your Angus Foundation on the ever-increasing number of scholarships awarded and the overall amount of dollars distributed to these outstanding Angus youth.

### **High praise**

When describing the growth that has occurred through the years, adjectives like amazing, remarkable or incredible usually come up in the conversation.

Without hesitating, I respond, "It starts with a gift!"

It's only because our Angus breed is richly blessed with Angus breeders, allied industry interests and friends who believe in our noble cause and unselfishly give of their financial resources, that your Angus Foundation is empowered to invest these impressive levels of funds in education, youth and research.

The numbers alone for scholarships and dollars to Angus youth, admittedly, should make us all proud to be a part of the Angus breed. As I shared with a local farm broadcaster in a radio interview during the NJAS, your Angus Foundation since 1998 has awarded 997 scholarships totaling just less than \$1.9 million!

Financial support to your Angus Foundation comes in all shapes and sizes, including outright cash gifts, gift-in-kind, appreciated securities, planned giving commitments through our organization's Angus Legacy Society, fundraising events, credit card royalties, merchandise sales, etc.

What's important to remember is that

each and every gift makes a difference in helping your Angus Foundation carry out its mission.

#### **Overlooked**

One type of charitable gift often overlooked is appreciated securities. With the Dow Jones Industrial average soaring above 15,000 and, at this writing, continuing to put old highs and one-time market peaks in the rearview mirror, donating appreciated securities (e.g., stocks, bonds, mutual funds) to a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charitable organization like your Angus Foundation, for example, is worthy of serious consideration as another giving option.

Are there advantages of donating appreciated assets instead of cash?

Individuals donating stock or mutual fund shares held for more than one year can benefit from a combination of appealing tax benefits in (1) receiving a charitable deduction for the fair market value of the stock on the date shares are transferred to the Angus Foundation, and (2) avoiding long-term capital gains tax on the unrealized appreciation of the donated property that you otherwise would be required to pay in accordance with Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rules and regulations if you received the

income generated by the sale of the stock.

Remember, this will only work if you have owned the shares of appreciated stock or a mutual fund for more than one year. If the shares were held for a year or less, the shares would be treated as ordinary income property, and the cost basis of the shares would be the allowed charitable deduction amount for your income tax purposes.

#### Simple, easy

From a mechanics standpoint, giving appreciated stock or other securities to your Angus Foundation is quite simple, and our office stands prepared to assist you with the information you need to electronically transfer stock to our Angus Foundation account via the Depository Trust Company (DTC) from your stock brokerage firm. Feel free to contact our office at 816-383-5100, or email me at mjenkins@angusfoundation.org, and I'll be glad to discuss this charitable giving option with you.

Upon receiving formal confirmation of your stock shares being received, our office will issue you a receipt identifying the name of the stock, number of shares donated, the date of the donation and other relevant information needed to substantiate your charitable contribution for income-tax purposes.

Charitable gifts of stock can easily be used to fund permanent endowments in the donor's specific area of interest (e.g., education, youth or research) within our mission or for general purposes, which plays a crucial role in our ability to maintain the current level of undergraduate and graduate student scholarships awarded at the NJAS.

Indeed, it starts with a gift, and quite possibly, depending on your financial situation, a gift of appreciated stock or securities would enable you to, in all actuality, contribute more to the Angus Foundation for less!

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**Author's Note:** Milford Jenkins is president of the Angus Foundation. Visit www.angusfoundation.org for more information regarding the Angus Foundation.



►Winners of the Angus Foundation general scholarships were recognized during a break in the cattle show Wednesday, July 10, at the National Junior Angus Show at the American Royal Complex in Kansas City, Mo. For more information and an account of those earning general and named scholarships, see "Investing in the Next Generation," on page 98 of this issue.