

Aberdeen in twenty-thirteen

Honoring the Angus Legend

2013 National Junior Angus Show connects history to current event.

by Kasey Brown, Shauna Rose Hermel & Lynsey Meharg

Junior Angus members kicked off the 2013 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) — themed “Aberdeen in Twenty-thirteen: Honoring the Angus Legend” — with opening ceremonies July 6 at the American Royal Complex in Kansas City, Mo. Hosted by the Missouri Angus and Missouri Junior Angus associations, the opening ceremonies honored the vision George Grant had when he brought the first four Angus bulls home to Victoria, Kan., in 1873.

Those four bulls and their calves captured a lot of attention. The impact they made on the cattle industry is legendary. As apparent in Kansas City, the breed is still captivating attention. More than 700 Angus juniors and their families traveled to Kansas City to participate in the event, exhibiting 1,066 entries in the cattle show and competing in contests ranging from coloring to livestock judging to public speaking.

At the awards ceremony the night prior to the conclusion of the show, retiring National Junior Angus Board Chairman JanLee Rowlett put the week into perspective: “A week ago, we looked backward, considering the vision of one of the founding fathers of the Angus breed ... Tonight, let’s look forward. In 140 years the people gathered in this arena tonight will be long gone, but what they will have left behind will live on. The decisions you make today, the challenges you accept, the standard you hold yourself to, the integrity you possess defines the legacy that you leave. Members of the National Junior Angus Association, you are off to a great start.”



►Above: The Missouri National Junior Angus Show executive committee gathered for a picture after months of planning. Pictured are (from left) Steve and Sandy Trosper; Robin Ruff; Tammy, Ernie and Paige Wallace; Kathryn Coon; Johnna and Rance Long; and Monica Jordan.



►Left: Those too young to show cattle competed in a coloring contest Saturday afternoon.



►Above: Juniors filled out thank-you cards to send to show sponsors as they waited for opening ceremonies to begin.



Dear Sponsor,
Thank You! Your support is greatly appreciated. Without people like you these events wouldn't be possible. We are having a great time in Kansas City, MO!
Thank You!
Morgan Alexander
Virginia

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► State associations gathered their members to participate in opening ceremonies Saturday evening.



► **Above:** Those serving from the Nebraska Junior Angus Association and those eating enjoyed the ice cream social that followed opening ceremonies.

► **Below:** Junior Angus members took time out from the week's work to participate in a worship service in Hale Arena Sunday morning.



Show Dedication

Curtis and Ann Long have shown decades of dedication to the Angus breed.

The Missouri Junior Angus Association is honored to dedicate the 2013 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) to Curtis and Ann Long, owners of Briarwood Angus Farm, Butler, Mo. For nearly 50 years, the Longs have made substantial commitments to improving the quality of the Angus breed, as well as the development of Angus youth. This vision and dedication began with their support of Missouri youth and programs, but over the past decade has expanded to the national level with support of the Angus Foundation and NJAS.



“Doc” Long was born in Ironton, Mo., and moved to Festus, Mo., early in his childhood. He enrolled in the University of Missouri (MU) School of Agriculture in 1952 and received a bachelor’s degree in agricultural biochemistry. He was a member of Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity and helped start a foundation to support the university’s chapter.

After graduation, Long went home to work as a cattle buyer in his father’s meatpacking house, an experience that taught him the importance of carcass quality and later would have significant impact on his life. Two years later he married Ann Hammack and moved back to Columbia to attend the MU Medical School. He graduated in 1963, after intensive surgical training at Ellis Fischel Cancer Center, and then completed an internship at General Hospital in Kansas City, Mo., with an emphasis in obstetrics and surgery.

Impacting lives

In 1964, the Longs moved to Butler, Mo., where Doc established his medical practice — which is still serving the community nearly 50 years later — and began raising Angus cattle. He joined the American Angus Association in 1967, and the Missouri Angus Association in 1974 — serving as its president from 2001-2002. He later was inducted into the Missouri Angus Association Hall of Fame.

Briarwood Angus Farm includes more than 1,900 acres of native prairie, cropland and permanent pasture where the Longs manage more than 200 registered-Angus cows and host an annual production sale.

Years of involvement in state and national activities helped the Longs become strong advocates of junior Angus programs and the Angus Foundation. They established the Missouri State Fair Angus Carcass Contest in 1998 and continue to fund scholarships with the Missouri Angus Association today.

Because the Briarwood herd has always placed significance on the value of carcass information, Doc and Ann were inspired to establish a permanent endowment to support the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) carcass contest awards each year at the NJAS. Their gift was used for the first time in 2008 to provide cash awards to the top 10 carcasses, as well as premiums to all other qualifying entries. All carcasses that met *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) standards received an additional 25% in premiums. By providing this permanent endowment, the Longs hope to increase awareness among Angus youth about the economic benefits of producing outstanding beef carcasses.

Doc’s level of dedication to the Angus breed can only be compared to his commitment to providing medical care to rural communities. He performed the first laparoscopic surgery in the state of Missouri, developed a new technique for tonsillectomies, and for many years, delivered about 100 babies per year. Named Missouri Physician of the Year in 2010, Long also was recognized by the MU School of Medicine for developing a residents’ training program that teaches new physicians the skills necessary for bringing comprehensive health care to rural areas.

The Longs have two sons, Curtis W. Long Jr. and Kent Long, as well as two grandchildren.

Doc and Ann Long are dedicated to helping Angus youth become the next generation of leaders for the Angus breed, as well as focus on the end product. They believe in their steadfast commitment to the longstanding reputation of Angus genetics and developing Angus youth that will contribute to the success of Angus genetics in the nation’s cow herd. The NJAA thanks them for their decades of dedication to junior Angus programs and betterment of the Angus breed.

Congratulations to Doc and Ann Long and Briarwood Angus Farm on this special honor.

Aberdeen in twenty-thirteen

Honoring the Angus Legend CONTINUED FROM PAGE 51



► Juniors evaluated four classes of cattle during the livestock judging contest Sunday morning.



► Many vendor booths were set up for the trade show within the barn and main hallway.



► **Above:** Three Stock Show University clinics gave exhibitors tips for showmanship and hands-on pointers for fitting cattle Sunday afternoon.

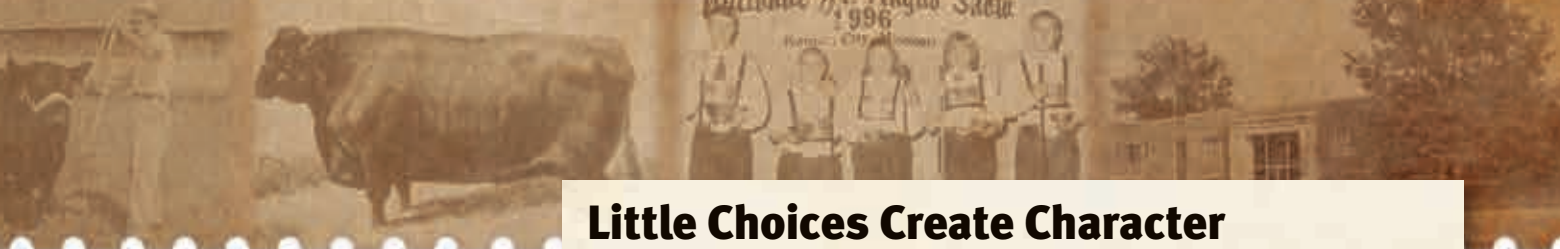
► **Right:** Kansas junior team members confer before answering a question during the quiz bowl finals Tuesday evening. They earned the right to compete in the buzzer round during a written test Monday night. Pictured are (from left) Eva Hinrichsen, Westmoreland; and Ethan Dickerson and Clay Pelton, both of Paradise.



► Regional Manager Wes Tiemann does the paperwork after blood-typing one of the winners.



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Little Choices Create Character

Speaker encourages juniors to ask questions and to keep building character.

Self-dubbed as the speaker and writer for the ADD (attention deficit disorder) generation, Justin Lookadoo entertained participants of the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Kansas City, Mo., July 6, 2013, in an event sponsored by the Angus Foundation titled “Saturday Night Live with Justin Lookadoo.”

An award-winning and best-selling author worldwide, Lookadoo gave humorous examples of his childhood and the lessons he learned.

“Everything you do is going to leave an impression. You get to choose what kind of impression you leave,” he said.

He said he’s often asked to speak to schools about big issues like drugs, violence, bullying and more, but he asserted that the big issues are not big issues at all. People don’t wake up one day and decide to become a drug addict. They don’t just decide to get pregnant and drop out of school. They don’t just decide to go to prison. How do so many end up making those choices?

Those choices get made by smaller choices that lead to the big ones. He gave an example of pretending to be the *Rifleman* when he was very young. In an attempt to beat the bad guys, he shot out the windshield of his dad’s car with a BB gun. His dad explained that each BB didn’t destroy the windshield, but they each created weak spots. That seventh BB finally caused it to break. The BB’s were likened to instances that damage a person’s character.

If you make the right choices on seemingly small decisions, he said, that builds a strong character instead of making weak spots. Those small decisions — like whether to cheat on a test — won’t destroy your life, but if you choose wrongly, they will weaken your character.

Lookadoo said he enjoys the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) because it involves the whole family, often several generations. He also commended its leadership-building activities that build character in junior members.

He encouraged juniors to always ask questions of those who have more experience and of those who are successful. He noted, “The moment you stop asking questions is the moment you stop learning. The moment you stop learning is the moment you stop growing. The moment you stop growing is the moment you start dying.”

— Kasey Brown, associate editor



► Junior members asked questions of Zoetis interns at the genomics workshop Monday afternoon.



► Justin Lookadoo visited with junior members and their families as he signed copies of his books after his presentation Saturday night.



► Juniors exhibited 1,066 entries in the cattle show that began Monday with the bred-and-owned heifers and concluded Thursday with the owned show. Sweepstakes winners, Premier Breeders and Silver Pitcher winners were announced along with the owned best five head at the conclusion of the cattle show.



► Bob Cervera and Crystal Albers record an episode of *The Angus Report* during the National Junior Angus Show.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 52

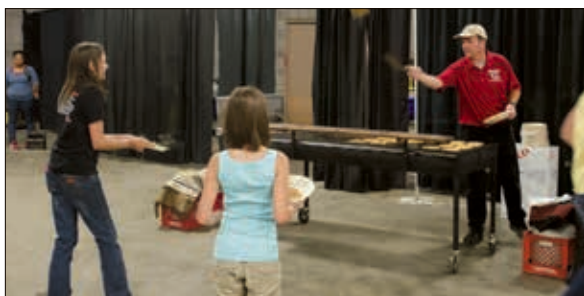
Aberdeen in twenty-thirteen

Honoring the Angus Legend CONTINUED FROM PAGE 51



►Above: The American Angus Hall of Fame hosted a social event for participants of the NJAS. Visitors got to see much of the collected history of the Angus breed.

►Left: Regional Manager Radale Tiner performs the “white glove test” before cattle go in the showing. No black paint is allowed at Association-sanctioned shows.



►Exhibitors were delighted to catch their pancakes from Chris Cakes at breakfast on Monday.



►Above: Michelle Rieff, American Angus Auxiliary, and Scott Johnson, American Angus Association, collect ballots during the National Junior Angus Board election.

►Left: Cattle got some exercise at tie-outs before going back to the barn.



►Wyatt Cooper, Liberty, Ind., and Jacob Wickard, Greenfield, Ind., sit on Indiana’s collected cans for the Harvester’s food bank before opening ceremonies.



►Such a large event requires a lot of cleanup. Volunteers from the Missouri Junior Angus and Missouri Angus associations started tearing down after the owned heifer grand drive.



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