

BARN TOUR

Self-proclaimed professional colorer, 7-year-old Brigham DeBorde, hosts a barn tour at the 2017 National Junior Angus Show.

Story & photos by Mayzie Purviance, editorial intern

▶ Catch the video version of Brigham DeBorde's barn tour at <https://youtu.be/kLyRjep3XVI?t=3m15s>.

BARN TOUR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 149



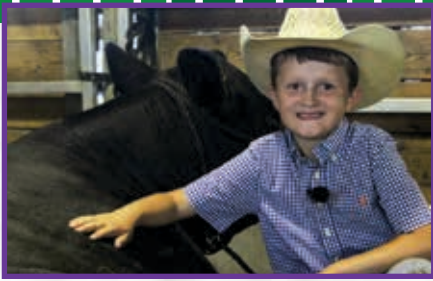
★ The coloring contest at the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) is packed with youngsters too young to show, attending the NJAS because their older siblings are competing in the showing or in various contests. Among this year's participants we met Brigham DeBorde, a young man who, in his own words, is a "professional colorer" due to the fact that he has "colored Flat Andy about 134 times." The exuberant 7-year-old from Bardwell, Texas, loves cattle (specifically his "baby bull"), coloring, making YouTube videos, and his family. Brigham offered to give us an on-camera tour of the 2017 NJAS in Des Moines, Iowa.



STOP 1: THE SHOWRING

★ "Here we are in the showing, that is, like, really big," Brigham says. "And it's air-conditioning. That's what everybody needs." Brigham begins to walk around the showing and shows us the spot where his brother showed his cow-calf pair earlier that morning.

"This is the biggest stock show I have ever seen," he emphasizes. "And I've never seen one, ever, like this."



STOP 2: BABY BULL

★ Brigham takes us to the cattle barn and the stalls where the DeBorde family keeps their show cattle. He kneels between a resting bull and cow and says, "This is Eye-Opener. He's a baby bull, and here is his mother."

Gesturing toward Eye-Opener, he shares, "He won this belt buckle that I'm wearing right now. He's a pretty good calf." Brigham's belt buckle was won earlier that morning by his brother Brayden, who showed him as part of a cow-calf pair. Brayden was awarded reserve grand champion in his division for "Eye-Opener and his mother."

Because Eye-Opener is in the process of becoming a dual registered bull between the two DeBorde boys, Brayden decided to give the prized belt buckle to Brigham.

"This is the ... belt buckle that my brother won for me, just today," says Brigham. "I really like it a lot. I really like my brother now since he gave me this. He's a pretty nice brother of mine."



STOP 3: THE SHOW BOX

★ Brigham shows off his family's showbox equipped with spray bottles, show sheen, combs, brushes, ribbons and some sunglasses Brigham has recently purchased. He put emphasis on his little barn, which is a toy set-up of a farm and ranch.



"These are the biggest toys that you could ever see here," Brigham assures. "They're so big, aren't they? And this is all made by one guy. His name is 'Happy Toymaker' and he lives all the way in Happy, Texas."



STOP 4: THE HIDEOUT

★ Brigham ventures to the "Hideout," a place he and his friends have designated as their play place — and one no one but he and his friends can enter.

"We have, like, a lot of torn trees down, but it looks pretty cool," he says. "It stays shady through the rain and all that."



CONTINUED ON PAGE 152

BARN TOUR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 151

STOP 5: OUTSIDE THE BARN

★ Brigham points out the cattle barn itself, drawing attention to its size. Standing in front of the barn, he asks: "You see this barn over here? It's really big, isn't it? Yep, it's the biggest barn that you guys could ever see at home, right?"

He also points out the washrack, where he and other exhibitors clean their cattle in preparation for show day.



STOP 6: MY FAMILY

★ At the last stop on our tour, Brigham introduces all of his family members and shares tales of their farm and ranch and how it began. He explains that "BCD Cattle Company" stands for he and his brother's initials: Brigham Colby Parks DeBorde and Brayden Cole DeBorde.

STOP 7: THAT'S ALL FOLKS

★ To conclude our tour, in his signature style, Brigham DeBorde says, "And that's all that I got to say."

