weet Southern Showdown

The 2009 National Junior Angus Show is set for July 19-25.

by Shelia Stannard

he 2009 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) is set for July 19-25 in Perry, Ga. The Georgia Junior Angus and Georgia Angus associations will host the "Sweet Southern Showdown" at the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter.

Georgia Angus members will showcase their southern hospitality throughout the week. Country music sensation Lady Antebellum will perform in Reaves Arena during the opening ceremony that kicks off a week of cattle shows and educational contests. Friends of the Georgia Junior Angus Association and the American Angus Hall of Fame are sponsoring the musical trio that won the 2008 Country Music Association (CMA) New Artist of the Year.

"Many families use the NJAS as their family vacation, and the people in Georgia are rolling out the red carpet to make this an event to remember," says Robin Ruff, junior activities director for the American Angus Association. "But,

more than a cattle show or contests, this is the place where youth build friendships that will last their entire lives."

As the week progresses, more than 1,000 head of cattle are expected to compete for honors in the showring, with champions awarded for owned females and cow-calf pairs; bred-and-owned females, bulls and cow-calf pairs; and steers. The 43rd Annual National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest will take place late in the week.

In addition to the activities inside the showring, more than a dozen educational contests take place, including carcass steer, herdsmanship, prepared and extemporaneous public speaking, graphic design, writing, photography, quiz bowl,

poster, scrapbook, team sales, fitting, livestock judging and the Auxiliary-sponsored All-American Certified Angus Beef® (CAB®) Cook-Off. The mentoring program will return to give juniors of all ages the opportunity to meet and interact with members from across the country.

National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members will conduct the organization's annual meetings and elect six new directors to the NJAA Board. The six officers, completing their second year on the Board, will be announced during the awards program, capping off the week's activities. In addition, the Angus Foundation and Angus Auxiliary will award numerous scholarships to deserving college students.

Cattle show entries are due June 1 — no exceptions. Contest entry deadlines and further information about the NJAS are online at www.njas.info, or by contacting the Junior Activities Department at 816-383-5100.

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2009 NIAS Daily Activities

For a more-detailed schedule and the most up-to-date information, visit www.njas.info.

Sunday, July 19

Cattle may begin arriving, set up stalls

Monday, July 20

Noon cattle check-in deadline

Noon contest sign-up deadline for team sales, team fitting, extemporaneous speaking, judging contest, quiz bowl

Submit posters, scrapbooks, Silent Auction items

Queens' luncheon

Advisors meeting

Check-in, weigh and process carcass steers

Cook-Off information meeting

Exhibitors' meeting

Candidate/delegate meeting

Mentoring mixer

State lineup and pictures

Opening ceremonies

Tuesday, July 21

Angus Foundation Golf Tournament Contests: prepared public speaking, scrapbooks, posters, judging, Cook-Off Fitting clinic NJAA Annual Meeting

Wednesday, July 22

Trade Show and Silent Auction open Cattle show: bred-and-owned heifers Contests: extemporaneous speaking, team sales, written portion of quiz bowl

American Angus Auxiliary social and meeting

Thursday, July 23

Trade Show and Silent Auction open

Cattle show: steers, bred-and-owned cow-calf pairs, open cow-calf pairs, bred-and-owned bulls, bred-and-owned best five head Contests: team fitting, quiz bowl finals

Friday, July 24

Trade Show and Silent Auction open

Cattle show: owned heifers (through junior yearling division 2) Presentation of Advisor of the Year and Honorary Angus Foundation

Noon deadline to turn in NJAS Mentoring Program autograph books

NIAA elections

NJAA awards program

Junior & adult social/dance

Saturday, July 25

NJAA Board Meeting

Silent Auction open till 10 a.m.

Trade Show open till noon

Showmanship finals and awards presentation

Cattle show: finish owned heifers, owned best five head

Announce premier breeder, junior premier breeder, sweepstakes, Silver Pitcher winners