

# Visionaries for the Angus Breed

Individuals honored for their commitment to Angus youth as  
2012 Honorary Angus Foundation inductees.

by Katie Allen & Ellie Hoffschneider

The National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) began the Honorary Angus Foundation in 1985 to recognize and thank those who have shown extraordinary interest and support for young members of the American Angus Association. Seven Angus breeders were honored as the first inductees, and each year the NJAA inducts breed supporters or entities.

This year's honorees were recognized July 20 during the National Junior Angus Show in Louisville, Ky.

## Giving back to the breed

Howard and JoAnne Hillman of Sioux Falls, S.D., are true leaders in the Angus breed and exemplify the commitment of Angus producers nationwide. Because of these qualities and all they have accomplished for the Angus Foundation, the Hillmans are being honored by the NJAA as 2012 Honorary Angus Foundation inductees.

The Hillman family has a rich history in the breed that dates back 100 years. The family's operation, Bon-View Farms, dispersed in 1999, but Howard and JoAnne continue to be involved in the Angus community. From 2005 to 2011, Howard served as chairperson of the Leadership Cabinet for the *Vision of Value: Campaign for Angus*.

"Howard and JoAnne have a deep loyalty and love for the people in the Angus breed," says Milford Jenkins, Angus Foundation president. "Those qualities were evident as

they were very active in the campaign and are passionate about seeing the breed succeed."

In addition to Howard's leadership role, the couple pledged their financial support early in the campaign. Their generous contribution, along with the donations of many other Angus breeders, has created new opportunities for the Angus Foundation to continue its mission of supporting youth, education and research.

Even though the *Vision of Value* campaign has ended, the Hillmans' impact continues. Through the example they have set, other breeders have stepped forward and also provided for the future of the breed.

"I can't think of any youth organization that does more for the development of a young person in so many ways than the NJAA," Howard says. "Juniors are the future leaders, so giving back allows these young people to be a part of the industry that feeds the world."

## Stepping up for the future of Angus

Jim and Sue Coleman of Vintage Angus Ranch, Modesto, Calif., are dedicated to seeing the Angus breed grow. This dedication can be seen through their generous support



Jim and Sue Coleman

PORTRAITS COURTESY OF HONOREES

of Angus youth and the Angus Foundation. The NJAA is honoring the couple's commitment by inducting them into the Honorary Angus Foundation.

"Jim and Sue have provided extensive support for juniors through the *Vision of Value: Campaign for Angus*," says NJAA Foundation Director Lindsey Grimes of Hillsboro, Ohio. "By stepping up and taking an active role in the Foundation, they are providing a bright future for Angus youth."

In 2006, the Colemans hosted "Magic of the Vine" an event to support the Angus



JoAnne and Howard Hillman



► JoAnne and Howard Hillman were inducted into the Honorary Angus Foundation for their leadership and financial support. Pictured (from left) are Milford Jenkins, Foundation president; Lindsey Grimes, NJAA Foundation director; JoAnne and Howard Hillman; and Cathy Watkins, Angus Foundation Board chairman.



► Doug Worthington, Modesto, Calif., accepts the induction into the Honorary Angus Foundation for Jim and Sue Coleman. The Colemans hosted “Magic of the Vine” and served on the *Vision of Value* Leadership Cabinet.

Foundation’s *Vision of Value: Campaign for Angus*. This event raised more than \$197,000 for youth, education and research. In addition to being event hosts, the Colemans have shown dedication to the breed by attending numerous other fundraising occasions through the years.

Plus, the couple donates more than just funds. Jim served as a co-chair of the Leadership Cabinet for the *Vision of Value: Campaign for Angus*. In this role, he gave of his time in reviewing donor prospects, suggesting new donors and overseeing the use of Foundation dollars.

“This level of commitment to Angus is inspiring,” Grimes says. “It sets an example for juniors to give back in the future.”

### Gifts of Angus history and scholarship

Blanford and Joan Pierce of Woodlawn Farms in Creston, Ill., have made it a priority to give back to the Angus breed and the youth of the NJAA. Because of this generous



Blanford and Joan Pierce

attitude, the NJAA inducted the Pierces into the Honorary Angus Foundation during the 2012 NJAS.

In 2005, the Pierces donated \$25,000 to the Angus Foundation to establish the Woodlawn Farms Angus Scholarship Endowment Fund. This year marks the seventh year an Angus youth has been awarded the scholarship.

“I grew up in the Angus breed hearing about the history of Woodlawn Farms, and to receive the scholarship from them was truly an honor,” says Paige Wallace, the 2011 recipient of the \$1,000 scholarship.

In addition to the scholarship, the Pierces have generously given of their time and history to the Angus Foundation. One of the most famous steers in Angus history, Advance, was raised by Woodlawn Farms.



► Blanford and Joan Pierce established the Woodlawn Farms Angus Scholarship Endowment Fund and have shared Woodlawn Farms’ history of the famous steer named Advance.

He was selected as grand champion over all breeds at the International in 1990. The couple donated the trophy and original oil painting to the Angus Foundation, and Advance has since become the inspiration for a fundraising challenge.

The Advance Challenge began with the sale of 10 exact replicas of the oil painting of the steer, and now continues with the sale of 50 numbered, limited-edition Advance giclée prints. The funds raised from this challenge will support youth, education and research.

At the heart of the Pierces’ giving is a passion and love for the Angus family: “I feel I relate in a personal way to all of these (Association) members, and I want to give back to something I’ve been a part of,” Blanford says. “We’re all a family of Angus breeders.”

### Nominate a candidate for next year

Any member of the American Angus Association is eligible to nominate individuals or organizations for the Honorary Angus Foundation. Visit [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org) to learn more or to nominate next year’s Honorary Angus Foundation inductees.

The Angus Foundation was established in 1980 as a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization to support Angus education, youth and research. To learn more about the Angus Foundation and the programs it supports, call 816-383-5100 or go to [www.angusfoundation.org](http://www.angusfoundation.org).

**Editor’s Note:** Katie Allen is director of marketing and public relations for the Angus Foundation. Ellie Hoffschneider is public relations and communications intern for the American Angus Association.