

Night on the Mountain

Nearly \$48,000 in gross proceeds were raised for the Angus Foundation and the 2012 National Junior Angus Show during an evening hosted by Tom and Lois Ames of Spruce Mountain Ranch.

by *Katie Allen, Angus Foundation*

Angus supporters bid Jan. 11 on seven exclusive packages, an elite heifer pregnancy and a raffle to generate nearly \$48,000 in gross proceeds for the Angus Foundation's education, youth and research efforts and for the 2012 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS).

"Angus Night on the Mountain," a fundraising event to benefit the Angus Foundation and 2012 NJAS, was hosted and underwritten by Tom and Lois Ames at their beautiful Spruce Mountain Ranch, Larkspur, Colo., on Jan. 11. The event was hosted in conjunction with the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver.

The exclusive packages offered to benefit the Angus Foundation included:

- ▶ Advanced Reproductive Technology Package, donated by Trans Ova Genetics and Bovance, purchased for \$5,300 by Canadian-based Soo Line Cattle Co.
- ▶ 2012 Angus Foundation Golf Tournament Event Sponsorship, donated by the Angus Foundation, purchased for \$3,500 by Ames Construction and the Terry Stade Family of Terry Stade Farms Inc., Shakopee, Minn.
- ▶ Getaway Trip to Scenic Arkansas, donated by Sen. Percy and Donna Malone of Malone Supreme Angus, Arkadelphia, Ark., purchased for \$1,800 by Bill Davis, Sidney, Mont., and Leo McDonnell, Columbus, Mont.
- ▶ Breathtaking Arizona Getaway, donated by Bob and Lisa Norton of Biozyme Inc., Saint Joseph, Mo., purchased by Mark Dixon, Dixon Land and Cattle, Pawhuska, Okla., for \$2,500. Prior to this final purchase, Spruce Mountain Ranch; Sam Johnson, Summitville, Ohio; and Buford Ranches LLC, Vinita, Okla., purchased this package and donated it

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PHOTO BY KATIE ALLEN



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▶ **Above:** Guests at "Angus Night on the Mountain" enjoyed a meal provided by Spruce Mountain Ranch.

▶ **Left:** Participants were entertained by a live band Wednesday evening.

▶ **Below:** In addition to the eight packages offered at auction to support the Angus Foundation and 2012 NJAS, Spruce Mountain Ranch sold 12 elite Angus females at the event.



PHOTO BY JENA THOMPSON, AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION

back for re-auction to add another \$8,000 in donations to the Angus Foundation.

- ▶ West Tennessee Outdoors Experience, donated by Kathy and Scott Ledbetter and Linda and Frank Smith of Lone Oaks Farm, Middleton, Tenn., purchased for \$1,700 by KiamichiLink Ranch, Finley, Okla. Prior to this final purchase, Buford Ranches bought the package for \$1,900 and donated it back for re-auction.

- ▶ New Mexico Antelope Hunt, donated by Express UU Bar Ranch LLC, Cimarron, N.M., purchased by Sam Johnson for \$5,500.
- ▶ Cruise for Two on Carnival Cruise Lines, donated by Cotter Travel Associates, Saint Joseph, Mo., and the Angus Foundation, purchased for \$4,250 by Stillwater Angus, Stillwater, N.Y.

Gary Taylor, Arlington, Tenn., had the \$11,500 winning bid on an elite heifer pregnancy package to support the 2012 NJAS, set for July 15-21 in Louisville, Ky. Gardiner Angus Ranch, Ashland, Kan., donated the elite heifer pregnancy from the multitrait feature of the Gardiner Angus 2-year-olds, New Design 1779, sired by the popular ABS roster member Daybreak.

A silver cuff bracelet donated by Gist Silversmiths, Placerville, Calif., was raffled during the event and raised nearly \$2,000 for



PHOTO BY KATIE ALLEN

▶ **Left:** Milford Jenkins presented Tom and Lois Ames, owners of Spruce Mountain Ranch, with one of the limited-edition "Advance" giclées as a token of appreciation for their hosting the event. Pictured are (from left) Terry Cotton, Angus Productions Inc. president; Megan Ahearn, NJAA director; Bryce Schumann, American Angus Association CEO; Kelli Retallick, NJAA director; Tom and Lois Ames; Cathy Watkins, Angus Foundation Board chairman; and Jenkins.



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▶ **Above:** Larry Cotton of Cotton & Associates (left) served as a co-emcee for the evening. He introduced Tom and Lois Ames of Spruce Mountain Ranch prior to the start of the auction.

▶ **Left:** Guests at the event enjoyed a buffet dinner provided by Spruce Mountain Ranch.

the Angus Foundation. Jessica Sawyer, Bassett, Neb., won the Angus bracelet.

“‘Angus Night on the Mountain’ was another fundraising success for the Angus Foundation because of the steadfast commitment and dedication our Angus breeders and friends have to helping our organization advance the Angus breed through education, youth and research,” says Milford Jenkins, Angus Foundation president. “A special thank you is to be given to our wonderful hosts, Tom and Lois Ames

of Spruce Mountain Ranch, their family and outstanding professional staff, our National Junior Angus Association directors, generous donors and buyers of our live auction items, along with Cotton & Associates who have helped coordinate this fun and enjoyable activity. We will always owe a debt of gratitude to everyone who helped with this event.”

Assisting the Angus Foundation in event management was Larry Cotton and his team at Cotton & Associates. Larry and Ryan

Cotton served as event co-emcees. Steve Dorran was the auctioneer for the evening, and he was assisted by ringmen Terry Cotton, Matt Printz, Alan Sears, Jim Gies, Justin Stelzer and Delvin Heldermon.



Editor's Note: Katie Allen is marketing and public relations assistant for the Angus Foundation.



PHOTOS BY KASEY MILLER



► **Above:** NJAA Director Kelli Retallick (far left) displayed a sign for the first Angus Foundation package offered at auction while ringmen Justin Stelzer, Delvin Heldermon and Alan Sears took bids.

► **Below:** Lot 1 for the auction was one of Spruce Mountain Ranch's Angus females, Spruce Mountain Lucy 1504. She was presented in the middle of the sale arena during the auction.



PHOTO BY CARRIE GILLIAM, AMERICAN ANGUS ASS'N

► **Above and left:** NJAA directors collected raffle tickets for an Angus silver cuff bracelet donated by Gist Silversmiths, Placerville, Calif.



► **Above:** Sale heifers get spruced up for the crowd in attendance at the “Angus Night on the Mountain” fundraising event and cattle sale.