



Next Generation

► Postcard from an NJAA director and state spotlights. Compiled by *Kasey Brown*.

Global umbrella of Angus

The Wikipedia definition of Angus is a breed of cattle commonly used in beef production. They were developed from cattle native to the counties of Aberdeenshire and Angus in Scotland, and are known as Aberdeen Angus in most parts of the world.

They are naturally polled (do not have horns) and solid black or red, although the udder may be white. There have always been both red and black individuals in the population, but in the United States, they are regarded as two separate breeds — red Angus and black Angus. Black Angus is the most common beef breed of cattle in the United States.

Growing up Angus

I think the last sentence bears repeating, “Black Angus is the most common beef breed of cattle in the United States.” What an accolade, because most people nowadays also think of Angus when you say the word beef.

The word Angus has now evolved into a word that is not limited to its dictionary definition. Angus has become an institution of a word with a global meaning. The word Angus now parallels that of Kleenex®. For instance, if we have a cold, we don’t ask for a tissue in which to sneeze anymore; we ask for a Kleenex. The same way Kleenex is a brand name that has become a commonplace term for the word tissue, the word Angus became the counterpart in the beef industry.

Let’s examine the global evolution of the word Angus. For the consumer driving up to the local hamburger joint or steak house, it is now common to assume if you order the

Angus alternative to the ordinary steak or hamburger, that choice is the superior choice, offering a more enjoyable, high-quality, and tastier eating experience. The same can be said about the grocery store selection at the meat counter. The consumer automatically knows the choice marked Angus will be the superior choice.

Angus has become the mark in the beef industry and the envy of other breed associations. With its unmatched database, Angus has set a standard so high that it has become the logical choice for the commercial cattleman. Thanks to expected progeny differences (EPDs) and DNA data, Angus calves are now born with little or no assistance, calves wean at high weights and carcasses produce a quality product.

These tools take the guesswork almost entirely out of whatever the breeding situation or scenario may be, and offers a choice for every environment and marketing strategy. If a producer wants to raise cattle that are efficient, maternal and will produce a quality carcass, we provide tools to make any and every breeding decision they so desire.



Tylee Jo Williams

Under the global umbrella, Angus has something for everyone and means something different to everyone. This could be a 9-year-old junior member starting a show career with his or her family; it starts out as a way to have some fun while learning responsibility. As a junior Angus member, you soon realize that you are expected to learn the general cattle-handling skills that are associated with showing and raising cattle, and sooner or later it turns into a quest for knowledge.

This is also a quest to be the best, and you realize exactly what it means to be brought up Angus. From chores to learning speeches, sales talks, and everything in between as we have grown up, our entire Angus Association and family have constantly put us in situations that have stimulated our problem-solving and thinking skills.

We have been handed a golden torch, and we all realize that we are expected to perpetuate its fire for generations to come. Angus juniors, I challenge each of you to pick up this torch of knowledge and build upon the foundation that has been laid for us. Carry it into the future. Learn something every day.

Lastly, and most importantly, hug the neck and shake the hand to thank your parents, your Association, and the Angus family for giving us all the global opportunity of Angus.

— **Tylee Jo Williams, Texas**

Missouri State Fair Youth in Agriculture scholarship applications now available

The Missouri State Fair Youth in Agriculture scholarship application, for Missouri high school seniors graduating in 2014, is now available online at www.mostatefair.com/youth-in-agriculture. Applications should be submitted to the Missouri State Fair and must be postmarked by Feb. 1, 2014.

“One \$2,500 supreme scholarship, sponsored by Sydenstricker John Deere of Missouri/Sydenstricker Angus Genetics, 30 \$1,000 scholarships sponsored by the Youth in Agriculture committee, and seven \$1,000 scholarships sponsored by the Missouri State Fair Foundation are being offered,” said Youth in Agriculture Committee Chairman Wayne Yokley. “The gracious contributions of many companies and individuals make these scholarships possible,” he said.

Applicants must be high school seniors

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NJAA ON FACEBOOK:
<http://on.fb.me/p2sldu>

Visit the NJAA web site
at www.njaa.info.

and active members of 4-H or FFA. Eligible scholarship applicants must plan to enroll in an accredited Missouri college or university, and pursue a degree in agriculture. Applicants must also have participated at least once as a 4-H or FFA exhibitor at the Missouri State Fair; however, applicants cannot have sold livestock in a past Missouri State Fair Sale of Champions auction.

Missouri State Fair scholarships are funded through the generosity of Youth in Agriculture sponsors and buyers of the livestock sold during the annual Sale of Champions. The sponsors and buyers list is available online. A

portion of each animal's sale price is allocated to the scholarship program. The Missouri State Fair Foundation also provides significant support of the scholarship program through fundraising efforts including the governor's ham breakfast.

For more information please call the Missouri State Fair at 1-800-422-3247 or email questions to mostatefair@mda.mo.gov.

Accelerate your college education with scholarships from Accelerated Genetics

Youth are the foundation and next

generation of agriculture. Accelerated Genetics is excited to provide the following scholarships to its customer's families to ensure agriculture's bright future.

Youth scholarship: Accelerated Genetics awards four \$500 scholarships to high school seniors planning to major in agriculture at a short course, vocational technical college or a four-year university. Any high school senior who has participated in FFA, 4-H, any of the various breed organizations or any other agricultural

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organizations is eligible to apply. To obtain a scholarship application, download it from the Accelerated Genetics website at www.accelgen.com/Scholarships.aspx, call 1-800-451-9275 or email scholarships@accelgen.com. The application deadline is Feb. 15.

Collegiate scholarship: Two \$1,000 scholarships are awarded to students currently enrolled in a short course, vocational technical college or a four-year university degree program. Supported by Accelerated Genetics, the collegiate program is available to individuals who are currently in their freshman, sophomore or junior year and are majoring in any agricultural field. This scholarship program is managed by the National FFA Foundation. This scholarship application can only be completed online at www.ffa.org. Click on the "Programs" link and then the "Scholarship" link.

The application deadline is Feb. 1, and the required signature page must be postmarked no later than Feb. 8.

Applicants or their parents must be currently active customers of Accelerated Genetics to be eligible for both types of scholarships.

Kansas Junior Livestock Show Scholarship to Angus junior

The Kansas Junior Livestock Show presented \$20,500 in scholarships to 12 exhibitors before the Auction of Champions. A \$1,500 stipend was awarded to Angus junior **Chelsey Figge**, Onaga, Kan.



Editor's Note: This column is compiled by Associate Editor Kasey Brown. To submit your "Next Generation" item, email kbrown@angusjournal.com or call 816-383-5277.

▶ North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) Jr. Angus Heifer Show, Nov. 17, Louisville, Ky.



▶ **Leslie Craig** (left), Harrodsburg, Ky., receives her Bronze and Silver awards from Paula Boyd, Kentucky Jr. Angus Ass'n advisor.

Angus juniors 'Raise the Bar' in Nebraska

The future of the American Angus Association is bright. That's because Angus juniors from across the country are participating in events to continue learning about the industry and expanding their leadership potential. Most recently, National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members met Oct. 17-20 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) to participate in a Raising the Bar conference.

"The Raising the Bar conferences allow Angus juniors to interact outside of the showing and learn about more in-depth beef industry issues and explore their interest in higher education," says Jaclyn Upperman, Association director of junior activities. "These opportunities give them a chance to expand their knowledge from gate to plate."

Throughout the weekend, 26 Angus junior leaders, officers and advisors from eight state junior Angus associations toured UNL and area Angus operations, heard from industry experts, and participated in leadership-training workshops.

On the UNL campus, juniors met with faculty, including Ronnie

Green, vice chancellor for the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources; Chris Calkins, animal sciences professor; College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources student ambassadors; and Karl Moline, cow-calf manager at Agricultural Research and Development Center, Mead, Neb.

Participants made stops at Cargill-Schuyler Meat Solutions, Schuyler, Neb., where they learned about the process of slaughtering cattle; Feller & Co., Wisner, Neb., where they toured the 15,000-head-capacity feedyard; and Vala's Pumpkin Patch, Gretna, Neb.

The next Raising the Bar conference is scheduled for April 10-13 at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas. Visit www.angus.org for more information as it becomes available.

Now in its sixth year, the Raising the Bar program continues to foster the development of Angus youth by hosting events across the country. The NJAA, with sponsorship from the Angus Foundation, has conducted Raising the Bar conferences in cities such as Nashville, Tenn.; Ames, Iowa; Columbus, Ohio; Manhattan, Kan.; and Stillwater, Okla.

