



Next Generation

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

Life in a non-ag community

Ever feel like a fish swimming upstream? Like many of you, I was blessed to grow up on a ranch in a rural area with a relatively small and close-knit community. I learned the value of responsibility and developed a love for the land and cattle. Many weeknights were spent at 4-H club meetings, watching over the new calf crop or doing homework after making the feeding rounds. However, as time moved on, I packed up my things and moved to the big city to pursue further education.

Adaptations

Moving to a large city and living on my own were major life changes, but factor in my new surroundings, the lack of agriculture enthusiasts or ag education, and suddenly it was a whole new ball game. I found myself having to go against the current. To adapt in the past six years, I've learned to effectively live among, debate with and educate those who have little to no knowledge about agricultural life.

Undoubtedly, many of you have come across someone who didn't agree with or understand your way of life or the practices you have on your ranch. However, the positive way you interact with these people will ultimately have a larger effect on their opinion than what they can formulate on their own.

I currently live in Austin, Texas, one of the most liberal-minded, green-oriented and

animal-welfare-concerned cities in the world — right in the heart of the agricultural southern United States. For my first few years of college, to say I felt like a fish out of water would be an understatement. As the years have progressed and my goals have changed, I have found ways to actively pursue a career outside of the agriculture industry, yet still retain my agricultural roots.

I struggled growing up — torn between what I thought were two different paths in life, my agriculture roots and my future career. In recent years, I've come to see that there are many different paths, and no matter where I go in life or what I end up doing, I will have the opportunity to share my knowledge of and love for agriculture.

Among all the Angus youth across the country there will be doctors, lawyers, politicians and generals. Of course, there will also be those who take over the family farm, the auctioneers, the producers, the geneticists and veterinarians. What is important to understand is there is no right or wrong path, no good or bad profession.

Years from now, the doctor will recount to

his patients the nutritional knowledge he gained growing up in the Angus business. The lawyer will use the speaking skills he gained while competing in National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) contests to defend his client in court. The politician will seek to defend farmers and provide a strong future for them while in Congress. When the general is overseas, he'll remember the beautiful land and the stewards he's fighting to protect. Regardless of the profession chosen, we are still all linked together.

Remember, not everyone you will come across in life will understand or agree with your agricultural roots. However, there are no sides to choose, but many minds to change. What makes the difference is remaining true to your goal of educating others about agriculture. Especially in a non-agricultural environment, it is important to develop your skills to recount your story, respectfully explaining your way of life, so they walk away more informed about how agriculture affects their own life.

Who knows, someday your Angus friend will one day be the person doing your taxes, providing your health care or producing the meal on your plate. One thing will remain consistent: Wherever you go in life, the skills you gain through your Angus participation will enable you to succeed if you simply apply them!

— Megan Ahearn, Texas

Angus seeks applicants for the next junior breed ambassador

Angus cattle play a role in every aspect of Lauren Adcock's life. From the farm to the showing and the classroom and into the working world, the Moweaqua, Ill., native is a prime example of how National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) members are using their talents to promote the breed.

Plus, this year more than ever, the Angus business is the center of her attention. Adcock is the first-ever Angus Ambassador and has traveled across the country in the past year representing the Angus breed at major beef industry conferences.

"It is a year of unforgettable experiences," Adcock says. "I gained a wealth of knowledge from an industry and personal standpoint — information I could not have learned in a classroom."

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NJAA ON FACEBOOK:
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Visit the NJAA web site
at www.njaa.info.

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► **Virginia Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet**, Staunton, Feb. 2



► **Zach McCall**, Greenville, receives the Outstanding Junior Member and Premier Exhibitor awards.



► **Catie Hope**, Berryville, receives the Outstanding Senior Member award.



► **Morgan Alexander** (left), Berryville, and **Mackenza Muncy**, Staunton, receive Premier Senior Exhibitor awards.



► **Morgan Alexander** (right), receives Bronze and Silver awards from Will Mayfield, American Angus Ass'n regional manager.

► **Illinois Angus Ass'n Annual Banquet**, Springfield, Feb. 22



► Juniors receiving the Illinois Angus Auxiliary Scholarship are (from left) **Robert Hosto**, Alhambra; **Kayla Widerman**, Good Hope; and **Ben Kiner**, Mendota.



► Crowned Illinois Angus royalty are (from left) **Kayla Widerman**, Good Hope, queen; **Sierra Day**, Cerro Gordo, ebbonette; **Olivia Wilson**, Ogden, ebbonette; **Keegan Cassidy**, Normal, ebbonette; **Lindsey Decker**, Philo, princess; and **Holly Marsh**, Union, princess.



► **Kayla Widerman** (right), receives the Outstanding Junior Member award from Jennifer Ewing, NJAA director.



► CAB Awards were received by (from left) **Joseph Ring**, Oregon, winner; and **Clark Miller**, Chadwick, breeder of the steer.



► **Left:** Receiving National Junior Recognition Program awards are (from left) **Troy Rawlings**, New Holland, Bronze and Silver; **Robert Hosto**, Alhambra, Bronze and Silver; **Gabrielle Lemenager**, Clifton, Bronze and Silver; and **Eric Schafer**, Owaneco, Bronze.

► **WINNERS NOT PICTURED** **Kevin Rose**, Salem, received the Champion Futurity Female Award.

Greg Cameron and **Eric McClure**, both of Saint Francisville, received the Illinois Futurity Get-of-Sire Award.

► **Mid-Atlantic Junior Angus Classic (MAJAC) Regional Preview Show**, Harrisonburg, Va., March 9-10



► **Connor Orrock** (right), Woodford, Va., receives his Bronze and Silver awards from Mayfield.

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Her year of travel allowed her to step out of her comfort zone, especially when mingling with Angus members twice her age.

“The Ambassador program is designed to allow our young Angus leaders a chance to get involved early in higher levels of the cattle business,” says Robin Ruff, American Angus Association director of junior activities. “This is a great opportunity for youth to get their foot in the door and create a network in the industry they are passionate about.”

Selecting the next ambassador. On July

25, the Association will select a new Angus Ambassador to serve for a one-year term. During that time, the Ambassador will travel to the Association headquarters for an orientation in Saint Joseph, Mo.; the National Angus Conference & Tour in New York; a *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®) Building Blocks Seminar in Wooster, Ohio; the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA) Cattle Industry Annual Convention in Nashville, Tenn.; the Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) Annual Research Symposium and Convention in Oklahoma

City, Okla.; and the Guiding Outstanding Angus Leaders Conference in Canada. Additional travel options vary depending on the selected ambassador’s location, schedule and availability.

Ambassador applicants must be American Angus Association members, 17-20 years of age as of Jan. 1, in good standing and who own purebred cattle. To apply, send a cover letter, résumé and two essay responses. The application can be found at www.angus.org/NJAA/Awards/Ambassador_Program.pdf.

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▣ Kentucky Angus Ass’n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Louisville, March 1

► **Right:** Kentucky Junior Angus Ass’n officers and directors are (seated, from left) **Reese Johnson**, Slaughters, reporter; **Amanda Goggin**, Danville, reporter; **Ruth Myers**, Harrodsburg, secretary; **Maggie Jasper**, Versailles, president; **Colby Myers**, Harrodsburg, first vice president; **Benjamin Conner**, Hodgenville, treasurer; **Corbin Cowles**, Rockfield, reporter; (standing, from left) **Michael Benedict**, Springfield; **Sheldon Burks**, Park City; **Caroline Cowles**, Rockfield; **Emily Johnson**, Slaughters; and **Josh Jasper**, Nicholasville.



► **Caleb Sadler** (left), Carlisle, and **Logan Goggin** (right), Danville, receive Outstanding Retiring Junior awards from **Kenley Conner**, Kentucky Angus Ass’n president.



► **Sheldon Burks**, Park City, received his Bronze and Silver awards. Pictured are (from left) **Paula Boyd**, junior advisor; **Burks**, recipient; and **Jamie Marksbury**, junior advisor.



► **Paula Boyd** (left), Mayslick, and **Jamie Marksbury** (right), Buffalo, receive an award from **Maggie Jasper**, NJAA director, for serving as junior advisors for the Kentucky Junior Angus Ass’n.

► WINNERS NOT PICTURED

Caroline Cowles, Rockfield, received the Owned Heifer of the Year award.

Corbin Cowles, Rockfield, received the Steer of the Year award.

Caleb Sadler, Carlisle, received the Bred-and-Owned Bull of the Year award.

Sheldon Burks, Park City, received the Bred-and-Owned Heifer of the Year award.

Blake Boyd, Mayslick, won the Premier Breeder award.

Josh Jasper, Nicholasville, received Exhibitor of the Year, Show Animal of the Year, and Owned Cow-Calf Pair of the Year awards.



► Kentucky Angus royalty are (from left) **Leslie Craig**, Harrodsburg, queen; and **Caroline Cowles**, Rockfield, princess.

▣ Wisconsin Angus Ass’n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Wisconsin Dells, Feb. 16.



► **Suzanne Henning** (right), Janesville, was crowned Wisconsin Angus queen. Also pictured is **Leslie Mindemann**, Wisconsin Angus Auxiliary vice president.

► WINNER NOT PICTURED

Kelli Retallick, 2K Cattle Ent., Glen Haven, won Cow-Calf Pair of the Year.

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▶ Missouri Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Columbia, Feb. 23

▶ **Right:** Curtis Long of Briarwood Farms sponsored additional premium checks to members exhibiting in the junior carcass show at the Missouri State Fair. Pictured are (from left) **Reba Colin**, Butler; **Kendra Pryor**, Pleasant Hill; **Shannon Yokley**, Jefferson City; **Ashton Brockman**, Brookfield; **David Warfield Jr.**, Butler; **Sadie Kinne**, Eagleville; **Ashley Grimes**, Archie; **Nicholas Rhodes**, Brookfield; **Tyler Jenkins**, Marshall; **Hannah Moyer**, Lamar; and **Melinda Foreman**, Lowry City.



▶ **Hannah Moyer** (left), Lamar, receives Bronze and Silver awards from Paige Wallace, NJAA board member.



▶ **Shannon Yokley** (right), Jefferson City, receives Bronze and Silver awards from Wes Tiemann, American Angus Ass'n regional manager.



▶ Juniors receiving Foundation Scholarships are (from left) **Chase Thummel**, Sheridan; **Paige Wallace**, Stotts City; **Brittany Eagleburger**, Buffalo; and **Chris Kahlenbeck**, Union. Also pictured is Kevin O'Bryan, Foundation Scholarship chairman, presenting the awards.



▶ Missouri Junior Angus Ass'n officers are (from left) **Jera Pipkin**, Republic, assistant secretary and newsletter; **Sadie Kinne**, Eagleville, second vice president; **Jacob Heimsoth**, Cameron, president; **Chris Kahlenbeck**, Union, secretary; **Shannon Yokley**, Jefferson City, vice president; and **Sydney Thummel**, Sheridan, treasurer.



▶ **Left: Hannah Bartholomew**, Archie, receives the Junior Member of the Year award.

▶ WINNERS NOT PICTURED

Jera Pipkin, Republic, received the Show Bull of the Year award for Clearwater Intensity 2171.

Cameron Ward, Plattsburg, received the Show Female of the Year award for WB PVF Lucy 1052.

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All applications must be postmarked by June 15 and sent to the Association's Junior Activities Department, 3201 Frederick Ave., Saint Joseph, MO 64506.

To view a video interview with Adcock, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=gMf1ck-3RQ.

▶ Alabama Jr. Beef Expo Angus Show, Montgomery, March 10



▶ **Clayton McGuire** (left), Waverly, receives his Bronze and Silver awards from Richard Dyar, American Angus Ass'n regional manager.

▶ South Carolina Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Anderson, March 15



▶ **Cory Watt** (right), Iva, receives his Bronze and Silver awards from Sally Yon, NJAA director.

▶ Louisiana Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Lecompte, March 9



▶ From left, Miss Louisiana Angus Katelyn Corsentino presents Landon Hayes Memorial Scholarships to **Jacob Chicola**, Deville, recipient; and **Nancy Bickham**, Saint Francisville, recipient.

S.D. Stockgrowers, Cattlewomen offer \$1,000 beef industry scholarship

The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association (SDSA) and the South Dakota CattleWomen are currently accepting applications for a \$1,000 scholarship in memory of Guy Ham. The scholarship is available to any South Dakota student having completed at least one year of postsecondary education and pursuing a career in an agricultural or agribusiness-related field.

This \$1,000 scholarship is made possible by the generosity and gift of the Guy E. Ham Beef Industry Scholarship in memory of Guy Ham and his commitment to the future of the agriculture industry in South Dakota.

Application information and details can be found by visiting www.southdakotastockgrowers.org or by contacting the SDSA at 605-342-0429. Applications will be accepted until Aug. 1, 2013, and the scholarship will be awarded during the Stockgrowers Annual Convention Sept. 28, 2013.

Donations to the Guy E. Ham Beef Industry Scholarship are gratefully accepted by the SDSA for the purpose of continuing this scholarship program. Please contact Silvia Christen for more information about contributing to this scholarship.

Zoetis and AABP call for veterinary student scholarships applications

For the fifth year, Zoetis and the American Association of Bovine Practitioners (AABP) Foundation are teaming up to award scholarships to deserving bovine veterinary students. Applications are now being accepted for the 2013 AABP Foundation — Zoetis Veterinary Student Scholarships.

The AABP Foundation—Zoetis Veterinary Student Scholarships are funded through a unique partnership with veterinarians, animal health suppliers and dealers. Scholarships are awarded to bovine veterinary students to help offset the cost of veterinary school. In 2012, 15 students each

received \$5,000 scholarships through the AABP Foundation—Zoetis Veterinary Student Scholarship Fund, for a total of \$385,000 in awards in four years.

Scholarship applicants must be students graduating with their veterinary degree in 2014 and enrolled in colleges of veterinary medicine in the United States. Eligible veterinary students can visit www.foundation.aabp.org/zoetis for additional details and to access the online application form. Applications must be submitted via the AABP website by June 15. Membership in college chapters of AABP or Food Animal Club is strongly encouraged.

Funding for the scholarships is provided by the Zoetis FFA/AABP Industry Support Program. The program, which provides funding for local FFA chapters in addition to the AABP Foundation—Zoetis Veterinary Student Scholarship program, is offering a 1% rebate on Zoetis cattle products from Feb. 1 through April 30, 2013. Participating partners can direct funds to any local FFA chapter(s) or to the AABP Foundation—Zoetis Veterinary Student Scholarship Fund.

K-State animal science students head to national competition

A team of Kansas State University (K-State) students won the 2013 Midwest Regional Animal Science Academic Quadrathlon in Des Moines, Iowa, March 10-13. The team competed against 16 other university teams.

The students who comprised the K-State team included **Chase Miller**, junior animal sciences and industry major, Harrisonburg, Va.; **Kiah Gourley**, junior animal sciences and industry major, Philomath, Ore.; **Analena Simmons**, senior feed science and management major with a minor in animal sciences and industry, Barnard, Kan.; and **Angela Vesco**, senior animal sciences and industry major, Winnemucca, Nev. **Karol Fike**, faculty member in animal science, serves as the team advisor.



▶ **Nancy Bickham**, Saint Francisville, receives her Bronze and Silver awards from Dyar.



▶ **Kara LeBeouf** (right), Deridder, receives the Rookie of the Year award from Patti Hymel, advisor.

The competition includes four events: laboratory practicum, quiz bowl, oral presentation and written exam. The material in the events covers animal science and industry information, with the oral presentation focusing on related topics currently in the news.

The K-State team won the oral presentation, placed third in laboratory practicum and tied for third in the written exam. The oral presentation topic was the role of animal products in a healthy diet.

The regional competition followed a local academic quadrathlon in February at K-State, where 16 teams made up of K-State students competed to move on to the regional competition. The team will represent K-State and the Midwest Region at the national competition this July in Indianapolis, Ind., in conjunction with the American Society of Animal Science meetings.

Angus junior earns Bronze and Silver awards

Nancy Bickham, Saint Francisville, La., has earned the NJAA Bronze and Silver awards.

▶ Oklahoma Angus Ass'n Annual Meeting & Banquet, Oklahoma City, March 23



▶**Left: Sydnee Gerken**, Cashion, is Miss Oklahoma Angus.

▶**WINNERS NOT PICTURED**
Karisa Pfeiffer, Orlando, received the Oklahoma Angus Ass'n Junior Traveling Trophy for her owned heifer of the year.

Ryan Callahan, Edmond, received the Oklahoma Angus Ass'n Junior Traveling Trophy for his bred-and-owned heifer of the year.



▶**Braden Henricks** (left), Anadarko, and **Katie Lippoldt** (right), Kingfisher, receive Oklahoma Angus scholarships.

The 17-year-old daughter of Scott and Melanie Bickham attends West Feliciana High School and is a member of the NJAA and the Louisiana Junior Angus Association, for which she has served as director and royalty.

She has participated in local, state, regional and national shows and showmanship competitions. At the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS), Bickham participated in the quiz bowl and All-American *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB) Cook-Off.

She has attended the Raising the Bar and

Leaders Engaged in Angus Development (LEAD) conferences and the Louisiana skill-a-thon. She also received the Louisiana Junior Angus Association Scholarship.

She has submitted data to Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) and has consigned cattle to the Mississippi Angus Association Female Sale.



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.